Dear Nettie Tell me in your next on a scrap of paper. particularly how you have been ever since you left home. in regard to those particular, about wh. I feel most anxious. And if you are not right enquire of Mrs. H. What can be done for the promotion of your health. The scrap you send me shall be seen by no one but me.

Mother

n.d.

Standing Rule for Writing.

I would you to begin, uniformly, to reply, as soon as you receive a letter fr. home. Shd. you fail to receive a return from home in one month from the time of mailing yours, write again. That is; write as often as every month, whether you receive a return or not. Then, Shd. one of our letters fail, we shd. not, on that account, fail to hear from you. Shd. we think it unnecessary hereafter to write so often, we will let you know. But for the present, let the above be the standing rule.

Milo Oct. 28th 1852

My Dear Children I receivd a letter from Lucy last Mail enclosing one from each of you. I feel grateful for your kind attention in writing to me it relievd me of a burden of anxiety on your account and afforded me much happiness to know of your safe arrival & that you had so pleasant a journey

O that you may both enjoy good health while stay there even in the enjoyment of that inestimable blessing I apprehend you may have to suffer very many inconveniences and annoyances but I hope you will not suffer yourselves to be discomfited on that account for none are entirely exempt. Tis the "common lot". You must not mind the "dirty faces and the stiff hairs branching out in every direction". But must love and act the Missionary to the precious immortal mind within

God fulfils his purposes in a great variety of ways — & beyond the ken of man. Tis very possible that the whole train of circumstances which occationd your going down into "Egypt" were of his particular appointment as the means of accomplishing some great good even, it may be, the salvation of souls — & if but of one how great the event compard with the means of bringing it about

Almeda maried to Brownville Sept 8th was married on the very hour — her goods went the same day the Children the day after — Ann & I with James went to Bangor the Thursday after you left there, & Lucy Sanders came back the next day. So in order to have Lucy come home in time it was expedient for Ann & I to be away i.e. if I went at all which I felt very loth to do just then I stopt at Bangor about 3 weeks C. & his family had visits Mrs. Rider before I returned — and last week Charlie & I alone together with Nelly & the old wagon went away up there & stay'd four days & returned "safe and sound" I think Almeda has "bettered herself" She & her Children seem to be very comfortably situated and very happy I saw the young Mrs. Rider & his wife & the youngest son Mr. Rider & his Children seem to be plain every day home-spun sort of people and none the worse for that in my estimation they are really good, excellent, always kind & pleasant I guess with plenty of the neat substantials of life without its foolery and fashion — "Uncle Henry" has bought their farm for $2 75; 00 — Mr. Bradl gave up his Mortgage & Notes for 100, which has already been paid over and all settled — Mr. Sargent is now moving over here

Charlie is by me with his usual enquiry "what for?" I just asked him what I should say to you he says tell'em I'm a good boy & eat bread & milk and learn to read pretty well — He is indeed a better behaved boy than when you were here his going to school had a bad effect upon his manners

They have got the Meeting house almost done, somehow I

cant feel like saying our meeting house perhaps it is because I dont feel right — We shall probably not have any more Congregation at preaching in this town at present it ever

I had a very good letter from Sister Conant last week notwithstanding the very small opportunity she ever had for getting any education I think there are very few women 71 years old that write so good a letter — She informed me that Aunt Humphrey My own Mothers youngest sister is dead — But one of My Grandfather Mayos 12 children remain that is Aunt Hazletine who is 86 years old. May Gale Charles uncle is dead — Brother Joseph's widow & Mariah live on the old homestead — I love the old place and rejoice in the idea that it is not sold to strangers I do want to see it once again & to see Sisters once more If I could go, & could meet — Brother Humphrey there how nice it would be ——

I seppose the Children at Bangor have written to you all about Mowing into the new house & how Lucy got tired and sick — And the great Lumbering operation Samuel is engaged in, in company with another man Mr. Bradeen — in which as he expected some $15,000, it seems that it must be a great risk for him but he feel pretty confident of success

Probably Elliot feels rather anxious now a days will be married I suppose in the ensuing winter or Spring but has not get it fully settled in his mind what he shall do for a living are where he shall locate himself — will probably board with Lucy this winter or till he gets married but will be endeavoring anything

your letter was in the little Trunk in the bottom of the cupboard which you look over many times I found it there only yesterday

I perhaps should think of something more to say but Charles is waiting so good bye may the Holy Spirit be with you to guide & bless & preserve you from all evil and return you again in safty to your affectionate Mother

your letter Miles Oct 23-
Dr Quinn Nov - 27 - 52 -

Mother - Milo, Nov. 25. '52

Du Quoin - Dec. 25 - 1852

Milo Nov. 25th 1852

My Dear Children We recievd your good letters of Oct. 28th in due season & thank you very much I Suppose you are before now at Du Quoin — I can write the word after a fashion, but I am sure I dont know how to pronounce it do please tell me in your next

Tis Thanksgiving day & I've just returnd from meeting been to hear Squeaking Mr. White preach a very good Sermon the only Congregationalist Sermon that I have heard in Milo for a long long time & we have no prospect of any — ever again as I know of The meeting house they say will be done in about two weeks they think to dedicate it New years. I feel interested in it as I should in anything regarding the cause of Religion — But none the more for its being in this town as I know of I hardly know why I feel so indifferant about it. I suspect it is "Cos I've visited"

Charles has got an "addition" in the shape of a fine fat little daughter weighing 9 lb 6 ounces it was born 2 o'clock in the morning Saturday 20th Monday morning Albina walk'd across her room with it in her arms today She is all about in the kitchen "

Lucy Searles is here for a visit of a few days they have all been here since she mov'd away but it seems a great long way up there they seem all very comfortable and happy

The mail goes out till Saturday so I'll put my letter by till tomorrow

26th

Fruit is very plenty about here Apples especially Charles bought some apples on the trees out in Sebec gave 3 dollars pick'd them himself had 60 or 70 bushels He kept George here till the first of this month. he has nobody with him now is killing a Beef today

He has met with quite a loss his beautiful great red Colt She got a peice of hard wood 3 oz of a horse snake as much square & 16 inches long run clear into her side so far that it was with difficulty Charles could get hold of it with the pincers to pull it out She was a beautiful beast & fat as a hog the very day before, Charles was saying that he should not be willing to take for her $125,00 he was gone away when it was done & it remain'd in her side about 24 hours before he knew it went in thro' her ribs broke 2 or 3 of them & the wonder of it is she is alive yet 3 weeks ago it was done She begins to think there is a possibility of her getting well but of course never be good for much It was sad tho' but a beast to see her suffer so ——— Hay is 15,00 a ton about here now (not press'd) C. sold his 4 or 6 tons to Sam'l some time ago for 12,00 ——— Pork, Corn, Hay and every thing is so high this fall it will make it bad for Sam'l he & Mr Bradeen have 8 men (Six teams) in the woods he was up round about here last friday a week ago buying Oxen & Hay he said he should have said 125,00 just on the Corn he had got to buy if he had got it 2 or 3 weeks sooner ——— Charles's Corn got ripe & is very good

I hope you will not be disappointed in your expectations in regard to society at Du Loup however I dont want you should like so well as that you will feel willing to stay longer than is very necessary I am expecting to go to Bangor

~~I shall probably stay~~ sometime this winter I shall perhaps stay till April or May

The weather has been very mild and pleasant this fall & I have got along quite comfortably with the old Airtight — have been in my room alone a great deal of the time Tis rather profitable for me I think as Solitude with me facilitates an acquaintance with Self perhaps I might not be quite contented & contented to be much alone but I could you know (and have availed myself of the privilege) have the company of Albina & the noise & fun of the Children wherever I chose Charles has been so busy that I have not seen much of him except at Meals this evenings when at home have been taken up in husking Corn &c &c

Henry Thomson has returned from California with poor health William Holman & Ichabod Mitchel have died there — I like very much to stay at Bangor as many accounts more of my Children are there & it is — pleasanter in many respects But I feel that this is my home and where I ought to be there seems a propriety in old people retiring from the world and communing with their own hearts And tho' it may not be universally the case yet as a general thing (there is no disputing it) the company of old people is not acceptable or agreeable to the young in some instances not even to their own — I consider myself among the highly favored ones even so undeserving a creature so exceedingly blessed with the very kindest & best of Children & that they should all — every one be so good

I think you are in favorable circumstances to feel what we all ought to feel that you are strangers and pilgrims on the earth — I should think you could not really feel at home while boarding about so & I dont quite want you should till you get back to N. England — yet I do suppose that is a better region in many respects than this cold corner of the world — If my Children could all be located near each other and I could be with them I should not care very much where

I had calculated that I should have an highly favorable time this fall & winter here alone (almost) to read & think & really hoped to grow better — But what with various little jobs of work for the Children &c. the petty cares & multiplicity of hindrances and the rambling foolish thought. I have made no progress as I can see but remain the same bad commodity as ever — I desire to avoid looking at or thinking of self for I find no comfort in it — But in looking to the ever blessed merciful Saviour of Sinners there is comfort, there is joy unspeakable joy — I do hope that I have an interest in Christ — But if it is a well grounded hope why am I not more like him why am I so very far from being like him — Strive my Children now while you are young while "life is before you" to make great attainments in holiness & may the god of all grace never forsake you but be with you in goodness & mercy all the way in which you go from your affectionate Mother A. M. M.

The girls insist upon my going to Bangor and possibly I may go there as soon as middle of winter. I expected to have sent this to the P. O. last night but it rain'd so violently that I did'nt go so it will have to wait till Tuesday

Mother to Bangor Jan. 3, 1853
Dedication Feb. 1853

Bangor Jan. 6th 1853

My Dear Children

. . . . . Here I am at Bangor again in the nice new house & with a gold pen writing a letter . we did'nt have gold pens to write with when I was young but must be indebted to the old goose . I am keeping house all alone except Jane Sam'l has gone into the woods to be gone 10 days or more & Anna & Lucy are gone with him as far as Milo & Brownville to visit till he comes back — I expected that Eliab would be here with me but the very day that they went away he had a "telegram" from Boston informing him that the Brig Susan Duncan had arrived & he started right off at 6 in the evening . He has gone to sell the Brig if he can I believe he said that he owns 3/4 or 7/8 I don't know which he is to sell the whole at his discretion

Lucy's health is good for her — She cannot stand & walk as she used to but her appetite is very good — I have some fears that her journey

will be to hard for her — he rode on a "pung" that Sam'l got made on purpose for his convenience about going in to the woods this winter he is driving about at a great rate tho' as usual he is very quiet & still about it I suppose the profits of his Mill this year are 2000$ and he will make or lose a good deal this winter by his lumbering operations, —

By dint of great exertion he succeeded in getting supplys to his men & teams so that they did not absolutely suffer but several others had to drive their teams out it was so late before the lakes were frozen so that they could over Eliab has lately returned from Easthampton he went first to Northfield Montague & Warwick found the folks all well Marinda Stevens & her Mother have settled down on the old Homestead — She is teaching in the brick school house this winter — Heal so visited at Hartford with his Maria had a very pleasant time he says they expect to be married in the Spring Queen

I wish I could know that I shall love Maria as well as I do Antoinette I don't know any reason why I shall not — Cannot know till

I see her — However I shall love her because E. does if for no other reason

Mr. Gilmans Sister & his wife were at Mon Sor lately to attend the County Conference I expect they will be at Brewer next week he as Delegate to the Penobscot Conference & we shall have a visit from them

The new Meeting house at Milo was dedicated 28th of Dec. Charles attend singing school Monday & Tuesday evening of every week is their chief Singer in the Choir & much engaged in it devotes too much time to it I tell him consid ering his age he needs more time for read ing & meditation — We are reading "Voices of Nature" is excellent but almost to strong for me to digest readily "milk for babes" you know

I write you how Charles has got a little daugh ter I dont know what her name will be per haps Mary

I rejoice that you are so favord about freedoming what a Blessing it is

have just been interrupted by a call from Mrs. Martin our next door neighbor whom I never saw before I hoped that the people would n't find out that I was alone — I love to be alone sometimes

I enjoy reading so much better when I am alone that I find I must set a guard upon myself or my eyes will complain of me

I wish you would tell me what you think of the Albany Convention and the Controversy between Congregationalists and Presbyterians if it may be called Controversy which I hope will result in greater love and zeal for the cause of Christ by all everywhere —— But O how much harder it does seem to be to promote the Cause of truth than that of error — because men love darkness better than light

How very little the light of Christ does shine in his professed followers to what it ought to

I have hoped thro' Mercy infinite and Glorious that Christ is mine and I am his but O how all my life has seemed to contradict it

God bless you my dear children and incline your hearts to all good and to pray for your

Mother A. M. M.

Mother M. Bangor March 7

Du Quoin, March 26, 1883

My Dear Children, First I must thank you more especially My Nettie — tho' you are both one — for a very beautiful Book Mark it is in modern phrase exquisitely Elegant

I intended to have written to you again before now but being here and hurrying in some measure the care of cooking & household affairs seems to absorb what little I had left of Mind and thought — However I enjoy it — when you can get the girls letters as a substitute for mine you'll be great gainers by it you know for I am grawny old & stupid or rather I am grown old & stupid — only think I am now 66 years old. And what has my life been? If I could not throw it all away and flee to Christ as a hiding place and Covert, how miserable I should be I had a letter from your Uncle at Woorsocket a few days since He said he had been sick but is getting better your Uncle Enoch perhaps you know has had a shock of paralysis can not use his right hand feed. & shaves himself with his left Elisha has I suppose told you of the "Brig" Susan Duncan's disasters her Masts carried away & Making a Bill of 2 or 3000,00 for her Owners Elisha is more unfortunate than he used to be his health is poor these two years past

And I believe he said that he is not worth any more than he was 2 years ago he is boarding now on Essex Street with a Mrs. Avery's gives $3.50 a week his health is better than it was last fall but he is not strong I think he could not perform more than one quarter of the labor he us'd to in a day yet if he is careful of himself he may be entirely well again after a while

Charles is getting along about as usual I suppose, he has no hir'd help this winter nobody in the house but himself & wife & the babies

I very much rejoice that you are so favorably circumstanced in regard to society and religious priveliges so much better than we any of us expected

Mrs. Crosby seems very anxious & yet very happy about William. She says he likes his business very much & "thinks every thing of Mr. Metcalf & his wife."

Is he efficient and smart and likely to make a good Engineer? what compensation does he have?

Eliab has just been in here says they have just a Telegram from N. York informing that the Hartford has lost all her rigging which will make them another bill of 5 or 6 hundred dollars. But he seems quite cheerful about it — He shew'd us a list of Books you had sent for Why my son do buy so many Books & Periodicals? unless you buy them to give away I should think they would be rather an incumbrance — as you are Migratory — If you must read them all I should agree with Prof Shepherd that the more you have of them the worse off you are

You know that Mrs. Lee & Mr. Sargent & yourself are the only male Members of the Church in Milo — Mr. Sargent the only Resident Member Mrs L & S. have I suppose given Almeda & her daughter Lucy a letter of recommendation to the Brownville Church & Mrs. Lee & wife as I understood are about to remove their relation to Brownville church

Have you any thing to do in the premises as regards yourself before the Church becomes quite extinct. as is very probable it will — The meeting house built by Mr. Owen for the use of the Baptist Church has already become a bone of contention it was proposed that the Baptists buy half the Pews & the Free will Baptists the other half & that would pay Mr. Owen — But the 2 parties cannot agree about the Control of it the Free will Baptists want to let the Universalists have the privelege of having it with them & the Calvanist Baptists are not willing they should

I wish you could have heard a Lecture Dr Goff the other delivered lately on reading he compared novel reading to pouring any Dirty dirty water thro' a sieve just for the sake of what it passes thro' — Some peoples reading like the contents of a Lumber Garret compos'd of all manner of Commodities & then tumbled from the garret into the cellar in confusion many valuable things there but in no possible when wanted the more one has the worse off he is I wish I could tell you more that he said but if I could I could not tell it as he did & I dont know of any body that could he is a powerful man Ever will calls him the old Sledge Hammer

Dear Brother Isaac

I only just received your letter dated 4th. You are doing fine my Brother, like most ambitious people in this world, occasionally want to have a little fling there - for no little people is much people. As it was our Brother, respected Parents that she should receive Some thing from our property I needed, I think it would be extremely gratifying to her if you write to Samuel, authorizing him to hand over 50 or 100 dollars (I believe he is owing you) so that she can have a store of her own to go to, without being dependent upon two, three or five others at a time when she needs to use it - If you remind it you will please. That brother was a considerate one, and if he does perhaps it would be much pleasanter. The country round is so dreary, even summer & I think no one to go - I could will need some fetching out. Do not write in answer to this, as I have confused together - write accordingly, but as if it were your own Parents in mind - Sucha dear would part her a Bible that you know - and I am

I thank you my Dear Children for the many expressions of love & kindness I have received from you. Your good letter frequently occasion tears — tears of mixt & indescribable emotion chiefly I trust of gratitude to God for his transcendent goodness to me in giving me so much of peace & comfort

And such treasures in my children. — I wrote you I believe how I went home & stay'd one day & came up Thursday & came back Saturday. it was very stormy friday & I hardly got rested before I returned — But you dont know how good Charles & Allen are too they seem to want to do every thing for my comfort. Self denying and humble they are ~~trying to put on with Silas & almost succeeding~~ themselves for the sake of others

But Charles looked very thin & pale when I was there I never saw him so worn down — He attended surgery school all the first of the winter & of course never to bed very late — had a bad cold & cough a long time must be up frequently with the children so he gets not enough sleep — The town party rule the town this year too & that means high taxes I suppose. Taxes are very high & ordinary present — There is so much to worry &c. that it is next to impossible to live a quiet life that is good for any thing — How different he and Sam'l are — (How necessary it is to take into consideration the different circumstances in which people are placed in order

Bangor Mother Apr. 24 1853
Dr Lucia Ills. 1853

to make a correct estimate of character) Sarah Thoreau
was sincere but like an impetuous river desiring straight
ahead making every thing subservient to his own interest
— while Charles with as honest intentions as much
book knowledge — & as poetry love of the beautiful and
all that is like the meadow brook humming aside
from his own interest any time & every time to
accommodate & bless mother Thoreau any Mr Hosmer or
any body else not because he dont care for them or wouldnt
tho' I do think he would forego his own pleasure or interest
to benefit others more than most people would

I shall probably stay here till the middle or last of May
I do the washing & cooking except Anna makes the pies &
mixes cake and hears the boys say round in the morning with
the broom & duster by the way there is a very excellent person
you Isaac & Ethel have not lived with Hannah for a number of
years & do not fully appreciate all her goodness you know she
has not been at home only 2 or 3 weeks at a time for 8 or 10 yrs
I even I did not estimate her high as she deserves She has been a great
comfort to us this winter is very kind hearted & industrious
you speak as if I was certainly going to Minn & are very kind
in offering the pro rata the means — But I think it very doubtful
whether I shall go but I dont know yet what may happen
Lucy is almost constantly at work just as I look for it will not
[make up her mind]
warrant her staying there has not been so as to make
her own bed since I came here Mrs Hosmer [illegible] as her general
health is so good I have many expectations of that by next
summer she will be able to work about as soon & more so
I think you will too hard times if you succeed if you not do it is not your
health better than [illegible] (Kathrine p. 4?)

Mother's Mt. Bangor May 8. 1843

Du Quoin Ills. May 27. 1843 Bangor May 8th 1843

My Dear children

I suppose Sam'l must have told you a few days ago of informing you of the fact that on his birthday — being the 21st ult. he had a valuable present — no less than a fine healthy beautiful Son weighing nine pounds — ~~He~~ Mother is still doing well — and baby is getting along finely so much better than we had any reason to expect that you may well imagine we are all very joyful and grateful thereat — we have a Mrs. Griffith from Brownville here in the capacity of Nurse (She is Mr. John Thomas' Daughter) who with Emma and myself make quite a valuable trio for taking care of Lucy and baby — indeed Emma is a "host" in herself if you don't know how good and accomplished she is — well now nearly all of my sons & my only wife, all my Daughters, and my Daughters husbands about the first table on the 21st

Lucy & his wife [illegible] ... [illegible] ... [illegible] ...

was it,- at any rate I don't know that I ought
be permitted to think so— Sam'l is one of the
best of folks so perfectly sincere and honest
in all he does & says— so rich in good works (as
well as in other ways) devising liberal things.
he gives this year $4, 00 a month for Foreign
Missions and liberally for the support of Preach-
ing building meeting house &c &c And he
can the better afford to as he has I think a
very excellent faculty to "put money in his
purse

Do you know anything of Mr. D Kilo
Carpenter of Chicago — The School that Anna
~~xxx~~ and Lizzie expect to engage in will be
in a sense under his Patronage. He wrote
to them not long since that on account of
building a house for the school it would
be advisable for them not to commence till September
so you see Anna will not be till last of August
at which we are very glad as she has not yet
spent any time hardly with a Minister

You enquire what you had better do about
your relation to the Church in Milo the
only members of which I believe are Mr. Sar-
gent & wife Mrs. Dodd Tiffany & Mr. Stubbs

and you and I — Mr. S says now that he shall not remove his relation to Brownsville and I am inclin'd to think I had better not — It is an unpleasant state of things — I dont know what your duty is about it — I should very much prefer to be united with a Christian Congregation at Church rather than a Presbyterian — If you were permanently located in that place I would not like to advise you not to unite with that Church as there is no other there indeed I dont feel competent to advise in the matter at all but I feel a little as if you had better do nothing about it just at present

I should be very glad to tell you something about Elnabs Wife but I have been so often told her that I do not feel enough acquainted to say much about her — She is a very little body seems to be very pleasant, unassuming, affectionate, and very Lady-like — they have called here 3 times in the evening I have scarcely seen Elnab to speak with him besides since he got back — He is very busy now a days in his Shingle business — We had a letter from Lucy Searles a few days ago — Mr. Thumphrey you know is gone from Foxcroft — Mr. Butterfield is

principal there I think it is not a very good school at present from the description of it — Do you recollect the scandalous stories about Mr. Charles Parker and Abby Jones 5 or 6 years ago — They are revived again it seems it is very strange & I should think very unfortunate I hope they will not hinder his usefulness — Fanny has been buying fruit trees & strawberry Gooseberry Rasberry & currant bushes for his Garden — there seems to be a great zeal for gardening & fruit in this city a Mr. Somebody gave $50,00 for 5 plum trees a few days ago — We all send love as much as we can spare from the little precious one — Oh almost forgot to tell you his name — P. P. Junior i.e. Pierce Powers — the diminutive or baby name will be, probably, Percy

Emma has known rather more of Maria than the rest of us she says that she seems to make a very favorable impression on those who have called on her Prof. Stephens & wife and Mrs. Jenkins have been somewhat acquainted with her father — The position of E. & M. in Society here is probably rather flattering at present — which may perhaps work rather unfavorably in respect to his pecuniary interest as he will rather be likely to adopt a style of living which he can hardly afford unless his health should be pretty good, or be very fortunate in business both may be & are likely to be for aught I know we can hardly expect to have much of him at present he is so completely absorbed with his new pleasures

Mother Ac. June 25. 1853
Mido Maine

Du Quoin July 9. 1853

Mido June 24th 1853

[illegible]

[illegible] Expect that [illegible]

[illegible] last they [illegible]

[illegible] Jan

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] for the [illegible]

I had a good letter from Mary yesterday she is as [illegible]
and little Jane. Edith has really got a very good idea of
Work & I think in a year or two, I like her very much
better than I ever expected — [illegible]
(Sept 1 continued) What [illegible]

Ethel has made me a Member of the Work Aid
Society & Edith has made Lucy a Member & the are not
they good boys —— Emma is at Brownsville still, [illegible]
for the next three weeks longer, she rather expects
he [illegible] admit the great [illegible]

The Lemon has become [illegible] the [illegible]
Flower [illegible] expectation we [illegible] I [illegible]
[illegible] for more [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible]

Cedar Grove July 30, 1863

Mother Mc

Dubuque Aug 16, 1863

Cedar [illegible] July 30, 1863

[illegible] Many Many thanks [illegible] I [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] good natured ^ [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Elgin

during the winter & spring

possibly it may become a book

reading — want you & Hattie

& finish — especially

published &c. &c. think

the mind intended & perhaps

that suits her

pages of manuscript

enjoyed

of your letters

or Elliott, or anyone

as far as Chicago if she

the mess perhaps

could she be

to pay

[illegible] and directed to Elsworth Me [illegible] fine [illegible] me a letter [illegible] this ——— [illegible] have been [illegible] It seems came up last monday [illegible] Thursday there [illegible] and seems to be a sick — a very sick [illegible] headache [illegible] perhaps [illegible] at [illegible] her head Eliab has been sick with [illegible] now He has not been there at Milo since [illegible] summer It seems that he & Maria are as happy [illegible] happy as happy can be but I tell 'em it is not good to carry on so much joking with one another as they do Stevens they are very sensible folks — but She is [illegible] She is as much smaller than Antoinette as she is smaller than some great warriors — I have been told that the best goods are wrapped up in the smallest parcels I have been not very well this 2 or 3 weeks past had cold at first — have not been sick only lazy & useless Aug 1st Tomorrow Anna & I expect to go to Bangor — My home can hardly be called home I am gone from it so much three fourths of the time I guess these 2 years past — This is a secluded [illegible] pleasant place in the summer [illegible] winter is rather dreary — And the society & Religious privileges What are they — I think it probable that Mr. Billings who has returned into his farm with plenty of money wants a good [illegible] to [illegible] — would like to [illegible]

Farmers - He told C[illegible] the [illegible] he never [illegible] he [illegible] the River or his
he must [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] i.e. to hire as good a [illegible] & house — what do
you think [illegible] C[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] any to trade [illegible] with
this place and hate to have him [illegible] it — But C would
be a very [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
place & society — We have had a very [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] they not
so good as was expected Corn & other grain [illegible] good.
C has got most done sleeping [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

has been offered 125, for Betty think not but I believe
her till [illegible] Strangers [illegible] & Phebe [illegible]
to [illegible] [illegible] Aunt [illegible] & the good home she &
others find [illegible] ——— Our baby [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] very fond & devoted to her [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] Charlie is by [illegible] & [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
alone I guess [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
with [illegible] the 20th of this month — I suppose [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] O how I wish
you could [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

May God protect & bless & keep you [illegible]
all [illegible]

your affectionate Mother [illegible]

Mother - Warwick Sept. 3. 1853
Du Quoin Ills. Sept 24. 1853

Sept 3rd 1853 Warwick Mass.

My Dear Children

Here I am in Sister Covants quiet Parlor — I left Bangor a week ago last Thursday (August 25th) in company with Eliab & his wife & Daughter Anna — E. came to Boston on business & to take care of us his wife went on to visit her friends at East Hampton & Anna went on her way to Westfield where she was to stop a day or to then to Ellyria to visit Mrs. Hopkins 2 or 3 weeks & then to Chicago where she will doubtless engage in teaching with encouraging prospects of success I trust — It seems rather sad to me for her at her age to go away so far from home seeking her fortune — I think it most likely her other enterprise that I wrote something about will be given all up as there are a good many difficulties in the way ..

Lucy has been sorely afflicted with headache these 3 months past but is much relieved we all think She owes it to Homeopathy — I feasted my eyes almost to surfeiting, altho' we past it so rapidly, with with the beautiful, the romantic & the Grand Scenery between Boston & Northfield you have seen it and do not need a description & I could not give it if you did

How retired and Isolated Warwick is there is no Stage at all runs thro' the town now — Our friends here all seem well & do in the world, indeed the people here

all seem so independant — have so few or knows so few calls to Charity or any thing to bring out benevolent feelings that they seem to me to be all bound about with ten thousand bands of — what shall I call it? Pennuriousness? No it is not exactly

Sister Conant 72 years attends to her household duties & knits Stockings to sell to provide herself with the little pittance of spending money that she needs — your uncle Conant 78 years old works as steady in the field as Harvey does & I suppose does about as much — has lately been there hot days about a mile from home on foot to work all day "picking up" on burnt land which they are clearing for Rye

I stopt a day or two at Albert Parsons's I think he & Joseph are a little different from some here — but I have not seen — Joseph he has lately moved to Brattleborough is in a depôt there. I have some little expectation that Charles will come here to go home with me.

I began this some day ago but have no prospect of getting it to the P.O. till the week comes round — Harvey has been quite sick a few days past — his health is not very good & his good wife worries and talks to him so much about — that perhaps it makes him nervous low spirited &c — She is afraid to have her baby meet 5 years old Step off the door stone till the dew is off or without a blanket on if it is at all foggy She is excessively careful

It has been exceedingly warm weather here a week or ten days past — How I do want to know how you all are am very much afraid you have all been sick is it very hard for Antoinette to take care of the dear little one & is n't it very hard for him I should think

that august must be a very trying month. I know I do wish you could get through there and come on to some of these N. England roads where the climate is such as you have been used to — Are you not doing more than you or any other one man ought to do so much labor and so much care is not it too much — I know by you mean to be careful & I suppose you do — but I cannot help feeling anxious about you — What is the conclusion about the baby's name is it Mayo or Du Longue I wish I could see him what is the colour of his eyes is he fat does Nettie nurse him & does she have support enough for him or does she have to feed him — How long do you expect to be employed where you are you will come home next summer if not before I shant you May God be with you & bless you

A. A. H.

[illegible] there no go more

I began this some day ago but have no prospect of getting it to the P.O. till the week comes round — Herveys has been quite sick a few days past — his health is not very good & his good wife worries and talks to him so much about that perhaps it makes him more low spirited &c — She is afraid to have her baby most 5 years old step off the door stone till the dew is off or without a blanket on if it is at all foggy She is excessively careful

It has been exceedingly warm weather here a week or ten days past — How I do want to know how you all are am very much afraid you have all been sick is it very hard for Anastasmette to take care of the dear little one & is it very hard for him I should think

Mother M. Pike Oct. 1853
Du Quoin. Nov. 3, 1853

Wife

My Dear Children I suppose ere this you've had ocular proof that Miss E. A. Rich is no more and have been Mrs. De Witt — Alone Mrs. — yet it is I can hardly believe it — it seems like a dream to me when the first mate me that she was to be married in just a week or two, I did have a real hearty cry I was so overwhelmed and confounded with the strange news and so I have not a Child left. — It is well. — I must soon pass away, & I can heartily rejoice that I can leave my Children each provided with a friend and Companion to comfort and bless them on the journey of life

It seems as far as we can judge from her letter that Emma has a prospect of being very pleasantly situated. Do write to us all about the man how you like him — and every thing that you can think of that would be in connection with their condition circumstances and prospects, more than all I want to know your opinions of the man

I returned from Mass. 12th of Oct. had a good time am very glad I went I did not visit about much only to see Sisters Spent 2 weeks at your Aunt Cranes one at aunt Hannahs one with aunt

Esther at your uncle Williams's Spent 2 days with the people on the Kirack Warren it seems a lonely almost deserted place all growing up to woods and blueberry bushes Marion Stevens lives there on the old farm carries it on to pretty good advantage I guess and takes care of her mother who is very much broken down and silly and was sick when I was there but when well does a great deal of work. Braided hats enough to amount to 25 dollars at 8 or 10 cents a piece for braiding she is as close and savery as if there was danger of starving if she did'nt save & keep to herself every half cent — Marion is smart & energetic buying & selling like any farmer had no hired man when I was there but took care of her horse & cattle & every thing herself — Joseph is gone to Brattleborough I regret that I could'nt see him, I did not see Humphrey — I did see Andrew & her Lame Son a short time, they came out to meet Leonard, he is in a most pitiable condition unable to walk these four years — running sores constantly on both his legs tis a wonder he has lived so long but they think he is getting a little better now —

I saw Esther Goddard & her Husband & Children at her fathers

What grand romantic magnificent scenery there is on the way from Litchfield to Northfield and the River dancing along first on one side then on the other is there the like any where else South Orange is a beautiful little village I wanted there an hour for the Cars on my return ——— They talk that the Directors of the R. R and all are satisfied now that the road ought to have been laid thro' Warwick that it could have been made and supported with much less expense and saved the expense of the road &c &c. Lucy is quite well compared to what she has been these 2 or 3 years walks all about the House like any body & out in the Street some

Sam'l is going into the Lumbering Store in the country — He & Eliab are very much engaged and doing a good deal in the Temperance Cause they both belong to a Company of 40 or more Volunteer Watchmen to prevent liquor being landed there, among other deeds of Daring S. & E went down into the Hold of a vessel in a dark night without a light & rolled out casks of Rum got hold of Six hundred dollars worth in one night I believe but I can't remember how to tell you much about it Eliab slipped off a plank in a very dark place and came near breaking his arm it has been lame ever since

I am afraid Eis a little too daring — I guess he does
in regard to detecting Rum &c. that hardly any
other person would or could do without giving more
offence he is very eppenent but very smooth & good
natured about it — He seems contented & happy
but his health is not very firm I am'l thinks
that E. has not gain'd as much the part year as
his expenses have been — will not continue with
Mr Haskins I think another year I say he has all
the labor & but half the pay. Eliab has not been
here since a year ago last July

Charles is getting his harvesting done earlier than
usual, has got his Crops all in, his Corn more than
half husked, some plowing done, & has been doing some
to the House and Shed, Chambers finish'd all but
Plastering — means to paint outside this fall

The little boys are well Charlie wishes me to tell you
that he is most six years old — and that he wants
you should come here & bring your baby — our
baby is very smart & very high tempered indeed she
is very knowing for 10 months old she'll climb up stairs
get into her chair & rock & sing bye bye — ask her
what the kitty say, & she'll crow like a little rooster

And Lucy thinks she's got the very best baby there
is" & so I suppose you do — How I do long to see your
little one may God bless you & keep you from
all harm & bring you all back in his own good
time to your affectionate Mother

My dear children Mile 15th Nov 1868

Your very surprising proposition has been
seriously thought of and faithfully talked of. But I got
before my story I meant to say that I received your letter
last night — I think favorably of going and a number
of circumstances seem to favor his going. He had already
sold 10 tons of hay and Pratt's Drover man is here today buying
my cattle so that he can dispose of all he wants to at a fair
price I hope. but what I write will be nine days in getting
he is big enough to suffer he wants but that not often trouble
so far as it is not sickness or sudden ill it cause him
he has two years over 12 years the other one — which I mean
to keep Charley has got a nice upper Chamber finished off
with a little closet with shelves & three nice large drawers on
the south side of it & on the north is dark room large enough
for a bed but designed cheaply for a clothes room has got
the back chamber where the hired men sleep both finished
all nice. A grain room & workshop in the north end of his new
shed so that he need not have to carry corn & heat stoves
up & in to the chambers. Have not you a little disappointed
since it will not go to see you as she expected I have not yet learned
the reason why they will not. Ma & Hattie [illegible] since
since I shall know it almost as soon & have fewer days again.

Charley just sold one of his cattle to pay on the last he owes for. He
he has been in treaty with Pratt that I second [illegible] for
& now and 2 or 3 times before he has sold the cattle but is selling
just as soon as he get them
more than he gave before he drove them out I think one little

16th

I work the most part of this sheet expecting that Charles would get out the rest, did not like to be burned with his Gilt Edged sheet he has got about his books. That he says I must work for him. Moreover he did not tell me what he say only that he is coming just as soon as he can get ready as fast as mine & makes me all envy him — He thought he would by to Mar 1 from Tuesday 24th but thinks now that he cannot get started before the 28th possibly not so soon. He going to see Gilman tomorrow & Thurs. some of trying to get young Daniel Emerson who is a Printer engineer perhaps to go to if he can get Gilman for months or two I think they would do well. I must send this now or lose the mail when he has seen Gilman he will write again perhaps Friday.

From your Mother That loves ye all more than tongue or pen can tell

Milo Mother M. Nov. 15 and 21 1853,
(about Charles coming with
Dec 2 mon Dec 3 - 1853

Milo Nov. 21st /53

My Dear Mother & Isaac

Charles says he is busy, also busy about writing or dont love to write. He always contrives to get me to do it when I am here — He has just returned from seeing Gilman he wants very much that he should go with him — He [Gilman] was very much pleas'd with the idea of going at first — offered to engage him with Charles for 5 or 6 months at 1,25 a day time to commence when they start & Charles his expenses — Then he concluded that he could not go — He should need so much to furnish him with Clothes & Tools, he felt discouraged about it — This afternoon C. has been away over to Sol. Stenchfields to see him & he think now that he shall go Charles furnishing his outfit & money to bear his expenses amount perhaps 75, or 100, which he had rather do than go without him as he thinks to avail himself by Gilmans Skill as a builder

He has got a good steady man engag'd to come and stay here while he is gone & he intends to start from Bangor a week from next Thursday (Dec. 1st)

I dont hardly see how he can do without him But I want he should go, it will start us, he can and do him good, I hope if it dont fill his purse — I shall want to see you & Nettie many times about him for he is very very precious to us — In haste after 10 o'clock to be sent early in the morning

Charles has got a Colt, & has a cough | He says Lord is through with the hives

Yes 2 or 3 years

Gibbons is n't worth to go near unless he can make 2,00
a day

Nile. Mother-in Nov 23-1853

De Quoin Dec. 10. 1853 ... Nile Nov. 23rd 1853

My Dear Son,

I have written two letters to you within the past week informing you that Charles & Mr John Gilman are preparing to go to De Quoin & I write yet again because Charles wishes you to know as soon as may be the Bargain he has made with Gilman — So that you may be all ready to set him to work

Charles wants to go and we are willing to have him chiefly because we think it would be better for his health — He has had a hard cough every winter for ~~2 years~~ & we hope by going there he will get rid of it — He think it would be for his advantage to have Gilman go with him and we all had rather he would have company on the way — He had considerable barley with Gilman but personally agreed to give him $250 & his board for six months each commencing on the second Monday in December & pay his ordinary travelling expenses from Ganges to DeQuoin — Since closing the Bargain & making inquiries Charles is afraid he is promising to much risk fearing you may not have work ready or wages will not be so high or something — C says Gilman is a good workman he did our little meeting house all of it & is an excellent framer — Says he will work for the [illegible] & if he will make it the time & Charles can have

all he can make out of him if it is five dollars a day he shall be satisfied

I had a letter from Mary this evening she says that Margaret Crosby died last Sunday

She says that E. & Maria have talked considerable about going to Missouri but are getting off the notion of it She don't want to go & we are afraid the journey would be too hard for at this time of year (She's a frail thing I guess) But I want E. should go on some accounts I think it might be some relief to you (I very much fear you are taking too much upon yourself) and I should feel better to have him with Charles & last but not least I think her health might be better there than during the winter

Notwithstanding I do feel anxious about your health and Nellies I am afraid you are both working too hard to be careful of your health

How glad I shall be & truly thankful I hope when you can come home again and see your Mother

How I do wait to see that little one who dares be rock like & give him many kisses for me but don't love him too well there is danger

Don't wait till Charles gets home before you write will about it is necessary to know whether he has given [illegible] Nov 24th

Mother M. Brownrigg to Mrs Jan 1854

Des Moines Ills. Jan. 21. 1854

[illegible] capable woman but poor manager for
said of her think she may be induced to be rather inclined
to the Mary Long or Sarah about & not so careful & economical
as Aunt Conant they [illegible] Sarah poor [illegible] health
now & quiet — Sam't has been unfortunate & had a great deal of
sickness — when he first started in life he got married & bought
a farm all in a hurry without due consideration his Mother thought.
He got in debt his Father paid him 2 or 3 hundred dollars to get him out
in a friendly to be the misfortune to get in debt again which his father has declared no consideration
will do him & he has firmly believed & returned he would not
give or lend him a cent believing that he has done for Harvey
S. has some reason to feel bad about it — it is also a burden
of grief to his Mother [illegible] I do not know, but I conjecture that he
is hard pressed & perhaps in some danger of losing his farm
so much the feeling that he cannot expect much sympathy or
help from his father or Harvey has induced him to think of
going away & I fear it [illegible] very much distress his Mother &
have made a very dreary spot, & it is mostly given up

I could not that Charles will be any comfortable one to you
to you that he has had a sad time indeed, & many have him
in consequence of the sickness & death of his sisters besides
the discouragement & perplexity his plans about work
that he can profitably be useful to you & benefit himself
in some capacity or other I used to think he [illegible] the talents
ability in him for a good "Boy" but of late, it has been for
merit to say scarcely how he would manage to [illegible]
There is more of him than some folks think there is
I have often thought [illegible] [illegible] not quite

Mary Jane ... [illegible] ... before to him. It is [illegible] from the Riches also

So Lou Ellie I want to keep up good courage. The Cat. conference was a great thing for us both had letters were keeping in spirit & come east and see the rest Summer. I don't know how some can bear it to be left alone but practice [illegible] Ted [illegible] he can't come a while in the [illegible] Indiana Mayo with that [illegible] news flows with tears but the Dear little fellow is in our arms

I suppose Charlie is with you as now & has time, however Altimus has written a letter since he was here hope I can [illegible] suppose he will keep him informed of all the news — that the Riches has hired out with Sam'l & they are not keeping [illegible] Mr. Burnap is not here the 6th Sam'l will take them into the woods I spose. I'll or rather I mean he don't want them keep & they'll get up mad enough. Nelly & Lena & Ray came & they call it Spencer on her leg hanks. I am sure Sam'l is [illegible] to swap her off but can't get no more than 60$ for her. He thought she may get one if after a while. So he concluded to take my advice & not part her off at present & take her back to the farm. Uncle Mark & [illegible] they can make out to come & spend a month with Sam & Nancy. Hope that don't hurt the trade. Sam & I has bought Mr. Russell Hallmeadow's house for $1500

The School Committee at the Corner [illegible] the 18th [illegible] with James Lewis's at our house I don't know whether & he the goes his daughter will get mad I came away I expect to go [illegible] again in a week or two & stay a while and then go to Bangor a Sheds — Sarah can't take it [illegible] with us a bit Lizzie is [illegible] & perhaps will be ill [illegible]

The Sacramental Conference met with the Church in this place on the 20th inst of this week & we have had a meeting but there were very few persons from out of town for it was very cold and very indeed bad travelling on the snow & the ~~Ground~~ roads very rough ——— we've had no sleighing till about the 25th but the snow comes very plentifully since it snows & blows exceedingly today

Sam'l has had a very hard time before the snow came to get his Hay & stuff into the woods to his men he said it cost him about $4.00 to get a ton of Hay from Milo to his camp & then his Cattle would eat it up in three days — however he says his men are doing well, quite as well this year as last — Sam'l is a good fellow good to me & love him almost like an own Son — He staid here last Saturday & Sunday Saturday it Storm'd & blowed so he did not go out at all

Ebin Gould is "Jobbing" (Teaming) for him this winter

They are the most inquisitive folks here that I ever did see Mr. Rider in one instance went to Conference 5 miles 2 days, & got his Winter from the woods hew'd it & made a great long large Sled to use with 3 yoke of Cattle — bitter cold weather too look care of all his cattle & Chores keeps about 30 head of neat Cattle besides Sheep & horses has got 8 yoke of Oxen & Steers 5 yoke that are useable he sells a great deal of wood at the village and to his neighbors for 2 dollars a cord. [illegible] do for a long time ago but as Mr Rider where there is not [illegible] communications with any where else [illegible] Charles till yesterday — when Sam'l came up on his way to his men in the woods got him to [illegible]

[illegible] tells me she has just sent a letter which is a later edition of the news — Mr. Rider is a very laborious, diligent industrious man & will always be very much & much his sons are more like him I suspect in the first than the latter part of the description I gave, they do almost worship any body that does not work hard all the time ———

Charlie has got a very bad Cold the Master sent him home yesterday he coughed so bad he stays at home today — Josie has some cold too they are all about at play

been down to the barn, and made Marks horse there very well as to live & all the rest of the creatures looking very hungry & don't know how they feel I am afraid they will die very much during to keep Hoaxen till mans & pa Hagin are with us again — however I suppose I know very little about the matter

[illegible] Dec 7th 1873

My dear Children —

Here I am on the verge of bereavement in this direction — Mrs Thatcher says I am to read your letters from you Isaac, with a little from Hattie Dated 7th & 11th inst — I feel very anxious to hear from Charles — don't know whether silence has been any better or not — I thought if ever so much bad might be inevitable & not keeping to my hope which I don't mean to part with just now

yet any letter has this morning I suppose that it is from not seeing all the letters or that you did not write very plainly about it I have not been quite of the tale of her health I had seen was that she is not getting very ill at all — the hot weather & mosquitoes — If she does not get better & well perhaps it will be necessary to — as Ellie — yet it would be a pity to do it till the hot weather — in the fall when Ellie better come east when Charles comes home that we can come or not Charles is not [illegible] to be by to be nothing about you — [illegible] has not at all disposed to die, and your assertions about the baby for this said that the first baby is always the prettiest perfect things and even the ugliest Charles's age changed about rather more than 2 inches — for a Coward & the quiet one that just as a little afraid to board as what he can do & [illegible] things consistency when dominated — but perhaps I do him wrong I have had just no acquaintance with him — for he was a boy — [illegible] but I suppose the

Mother M. Brownrigg to Miles Jan 7 1854

Dr Doris Ill. Jan. 21. 1854

is a clever person capable of much but poor man is not said of him think he may be the kind heart to be influenced to the Harm Henry or Sam'l about & not to care, if & encouragement as first Comfort they [illegible] Sam'l has been unfortunate & had a great deal of Sickness when he first started in life he got married & thought a farm will in a hurry without due consideration his Mother thought. He got in debt his Father gave him 2 or 3 hundred dollars to get himself in a position to be the midst of plenty & got in debt again which his father has determined to consider an unpardonable sin & he has firmly held back & determined he would not give or lend him a Cent considering what he has done for Henry S has some reason to feel bad about it. — it is also a source of Grief to his Mother — I do not know, but I suspect that she is hard pressed & perhaps in some danger of losing his farm. So possible the feeling that he cannot expect much sympathy or help from his father or Henry has induced him to think of going away & sea. it. I very much disliked his Mother & now made a very [illegible] & it is mostly given credit

I doubt not that Charles will be very comfortable here & happy & the you [illegible] he has been a sad time since, & very hard time in consequence of the sickness & death of his sisters besides the [illegible] & finishing his studies about medicine but he can practice by his first & [illegible] himself in some capacity or other I used to think he had the talents ability in him for a good "Business" but if he has it was buried & long since but he must manage his [illegible] there is more of him than some folks think for he is I am often thought [illegible] [illegible] not made

Very many many thanks to
Dear Nuttie for her good
letters what shall be done for
her health I feel really anx-
ious about it. I think C's rem
edy "thoroughwort" is small quantity
cold, is a good tonic I dont know
whether it is the best — I would buy
for a while wearing flannel rather
closely round about the bowels,
have ye ever had a wet towel and
worn flannel over it when a

Darden first comes— that is such
an Elixir remedy. Do Dear Hattie
write me more frequently about
your health— if you don't get better
soon I fear I can to be healthy perhaps
your last letter I can cure you if you have
any sore milk it might probably be done
without hunting him Marsh or Lyons
would be a better time if there is no
necessity why do you have him near
dark, for you may have to tie them
round the ankle. To make them stay
on if so he would be better without
them as it must in some degree stop
the circulation & the feet will be
colder take the time together then
if love first— I do want you should be
well for I want to see you agreed and
in writing every thing about Plants for
I perhaps get much from him if

Mother

Milo

Feb. 23 1834

at what time you expect to come in June — whether
you come before the 15th of June I suppose
it would be well to get there [illegible] and time enough
ahead for me to write to Isaac — for I see I seem to [illegible]
that you can leave Liverpool the first or second
week, coming into [illegible] the same time as the wool.
but the dry common kind of hands get 26/ a month if so they
want work very cheap on a farm. I asked Charlie what 5 months would
be for you he says let Isaac in letter come before we start — but
I guess George & James & I can get it done — he is naturally
a good boy but he has learnt a great many naughty ways
this winter Jesse has been to school & she has grown
reckless in speech & manner — she does not heed always
what they say at all — so think of heavens then go away just
as soon as we can find a place for her

Is your work harder than you are doing these days you
usually do winters? Feb 26th We have just received letters from
you dated Feb 12 Your letters seem to come pretty regularly I can't
think why you don't get letters — oftener we have more of late been remiss
about writing to you — But perhaps you have received ere so many
before now. I hope S. Conant [illegible] will treat to Isaac and
do well for himself — I was surprised to hear that he was there
the worst fault I know of him (tho' I know but little about him) is
that he is apt to talk large — He is queer in his ways an eccentric
character tho' pretty good in the main [illegible] his father was made rich by
gambling & Henry & Isaac's share is [illegible] to
some [illegible] but I think it is not so — for Isaac tells me [illegible]
The children have been unwell this winter, Charlie was quite ill a few days but
is better now. Jesse has been [illegible] the worst of all
Business is very much troubled with sore throat. She has got 6 of her teeth and one double
tooth just cut thro' I hope you have got over your [illegible] & will write & tell us
[illegible] about the [illegible]

26th

[illegible] I perceive by the [illegible]
does you dont that you are making [illegible]
[illegible] you think you cannot leave there, till that road is done
what if your health should be entirely broken down & be ill before that
time what good would your road or the pass for it do you. in heaven
I rejoice to know that Antoinette is coming away I think it an
excellent plan for her to come away early in the season, and
stop with Anson till She comes the first [illegible]

[illegible] can leave there during the [illegible] weather, while
the road should be in progress building & save the health
of all the Laborers on it — the minds of all the Engineers would be
willing to give this life for the whole road — Do try your influence
once to stop [illegible] proceeding for a while in the bad weather

We have all been almost sick with Colds — I had a very severe cold in
the first of the winter — But had got over it & went to Bangor Thinking to
stay there the coldest of the weather — But came home when Jessie was sick
& babe have been sick enough to be very thankless and required a great
deal of care & attention but Charles need not be anxious about them we
are having very careful and nursing them as nicely probably they will
be all well long before he'll know they have been unwell — almost
every body about here has been sick or very unwell — I don't know
but I shall be sick [illegible]
in the summer — There are [illegible] — Mrs. H. Sargent is
very sick yet — I expect to week [illegible]
Lucy Elizabeth Mason — [illegible]
[illegible]

Mother Mile.

March 1st 1834

Cedar Grove Mile March 1st 1834

My Dear Children

Since it is my birth day I will just begin a letter to you, 2 years more & I shall have pass'd my three score & ten — Surely God has been good to me — I can look back on a life of Mercies — Many very Signal Mercies and blessings — But what poor returns — what a poor stupid rebellious unprofitable Servant I have been ——— Griefs trials & vicissitudes many — But all from a kind Fathers hand — and less of Chastening them was deserv'd

March 2nd We are about house Cleaning & with the children have been unwell a good deal in the 3 weeks as you will have heard before you get this. The Snow is about even with the tops of the fence perhaps not quite so deep on average in the fields The weather is so warm that one could stay out doors without freezing

John Kittredge keeps the Calf yet it seems tame as any old horse, he call'd here just now on his way to Charleston to borrow a whip

Charles will loose something on this Cattle in consequence of his absence — I guess Johns take good care of the one he has & they say Albion supposes he does not pay for his keeping. But I'm sure they do ride about this winter He got cerrid pretty bad once but I guess they mean to be carefull and not hurt him — Sarah closes tomorrow & James can devote more time & attention to the creatures if he can stay here but his folks want him at home Eldridge is in the wood & Mills at Foxcroft and Mr. Rider is some where — We cannot hear from Uncle Mark is sick and cant come back, but I guess there'll be some news for us it seems possible from they say that Eldridge would come & work here next summer for money enough but it would take a great deal more than C. better get S. Conant to come home with him & work here unless as I suppose he has got to go back to his own family — probably it would be too hard for him or C. to stay with so much the hot weather if they could leave home so long. all kinds of produce is so high now it will not do for farmers to replenish their farms

Charlie is a real good honest little fellow very good to mind but somewhat lazy — a hasty pudding or

impatient nerd rouses his ire — last night Mrs Wotton told him to "right off to bed." whereas he thought he had not sufficiently warmed his feet — he obey'd but — mutter'd out — Soon as I get to be a man I shall go right away from here I shant live with you

I suspect your precious little one is among so many folks talk'd to & play'd with too much taken too much notice of — not so happy so healthy or so pretty for it is it so I have thought that little ones do better to keep them comfortable at home but leave them in quiet to their own resources they will naturally play enough to make them tired without being induced to it

Pshaw! it is nonsense for me to give advice about the boy but I want to see him & it is some relief to talk about him You say you are buying land out there what good will it do you — Surely you never'll go there to live — who'll take care of it for you

Charles dont write whether he likes that country or where, or whether he is ever coming home I am somewhat apprehensive that his fortune will have to run common till he does come for want of some one to put up fences &c — is he likely to earn enough there to counterveil the loss & damage — I dont

come if he dont for he will get some more
stow'd in the garret if not in the front
which may be more valuable in the end
if he can only have his health I feel anxious
about that & and all the rest of you
6 Think I shall send this to the P. O. today if
I have a chance — and I confidently expect
a letter, or Letters, [illegible] you tonight
My Cold & Cough is very much better
than it was — I've done nothing to speak of
since I came home but help take care of children
was trying to learn Charlie to read I could
not perceive that he had learn'd any since
Last Summer — he seems to be trying a little
himself now — but he does not learn easy
but he is a stirring Chap — Says he is going to
be a Rail Road man
It has snow'd 3 or 4 days in the last week but
the sun shines warm & pleasant today probably the
snow will begin to thaw before a great while
May God be with you all & bless you & keep
you in health and peace and comfort and
return you all with joy to your Mother

Northern Lake – Apr 12. 1864
Du Quoin " 25 "

for $1000,

June 26 54
July 8 54

Cedar Grove June 26th 1854

My Dear Son,

Your letter dated 11th June I got 22nd — How quick you did get back I should think it would be very hard travelling so fast & continuously but you say you feel better for travelling — Doubtless you will feel lonely — you will know how to pity Albina She complains bitterly — I asked her if she thought it was harder for her to be parted from one of my children so long than for me — she thought it was hard enough — I suppose Charles will have left you, before you get this — If he has not send him along at once for his Hay will be fit to cut about as early as usual — and he must repair his Barn a good deal before he can put Hay in to it but more than all that we are afraid of his getting sick

Sam & Lucy, Nettie, Sabra, & the dear babies came up Wednesday 14th & returned the next Monday — So short a visit I did not have time hardly to begin to enjoy them & feel quite unreconciled to it — I did so want to keep little Mayo till he could be acquainted and get to love me as my little ones do here — he is a good little boy physically smarter than Bercie

But what a pensive sad expression there is on his countenance it struck me so at first I could hardly refrain from tears — Sabra seems good & kind enough but I do always feel so sorry for babes if they have to be entrusted to any body but their mother no one can feel for them & sympathize with all their little wants & feelings like a mother, it must have been very hard for Antoinette & baby too that she has been so unwell — I guess she is gaining finely — She looks as well & as plump as when she was here 2 years ago but I suppose she is not near as strong Percie seems not near as strong as Mayo but I should think his mind more developed probably because Avery has been so constantly every moment devoted to him talking to him & guiding watching every thought & feeling — But how thankful you ought to be that you have such a wife & that your boy has just such a Mother if her health is spared he can not but be just about what you would wish him to be

You & indeed all my children are so good to me that it makes me cry when I think of it & bless God too for his wonderful kindness — your offer of money for traveling expenses is generous very

but I should not feel myself justified in accepting it for various reasons — one is I have not spent more than half of the 100, you sent me a year ago — no not one quarter of it for myself — I grudge what I spend for myself — I love and enjoy travelling very exceedingly by but the benefit cannot be so much at my age — as my mind & memory are so much impaired — I am so soon to pass away — I cannot have the pleasure of enjoying over & over again by recollection what passes now as what paid when I was younger still I think I have just as keen a relish for whatever is beautiful & good but my mind is like a sieve every thing passes thro' and is gone — I have as much satisfaction in reading perhaps more than I ever did to but I cant remember so as to tell over what I read I have lately been reading over & over "Saturday Evening" & enjoy'd it much especially the last part of it Oh! dear how I always do get to writing about myself it's all I, I before I am aware of it

Dea Brown died last Sabbath ~~I~~ I call'd on Mrs. Lee on my return from Brownville She expects her three Sisters to visit & her Brother at Buckspoint who with herself are all over Seventy I believe

the Trees & the Grass have grown so very fast these 2 or 3 weeks past you can hardly imagine how beautiful they do look such a deep, lively rich variety of green — The trees in front of the House never look'd so beautiful before — perhaps in gratitude for the attentions you & E. gave them when you were here — grass is said to be much worth — The Millers says it is not in our favor — it looks very finely from here tho' not ripe yet the mower might well fill his scythe.

Sabbath 25th Today the leader of the Choir of singers & Superintendent of Sabbath school Mr. Wetherbee attended the Universalist Meeting forenoon & afternoon — but went in to the Baptist house at noon to attend to his duty as superintendant

I have almost no communications or acquaintance with the people in this town — It is wrong to live so in regard to social intercourse with neighbors especially I am aware the fault is mine that I have been merely guilty — tho I have not realized it as the time passed along and now dont know how to remedy it — or atone for it

I can hardly believe I am really misanthropic tho' perhaps I must own that I am naturally unsocial — yet I know I do enjoy such society as I like exceedingly

O what Blessedness there is in contemplating the deep the rich the unspeakable gift the Blood of Christ that cleanseth from all sin Pray for me my son that I may be cleans'd purified wholly sanctified and made meet for the inheritance —

Antoinette calculates to visit till Anna goes back & I'm so sorry she did not stay here longer ——— We are looking for Charles to come the last of this week ——— As you want have a nice baby to talk to this summer you will of course write a good deal to her and I hope I shall hear from you often as you make it convenient too

God be with you & bless you & keep you from all evil

Dear Isaac Tho' I have sent one letter to you that you have not answer'd I feel inclin'd to tell you about our disappointment at not seeing Charles — there have been so many little things that have been waiting for him to remedy and rectify — nothing great to be sure only that Walter is sick & some what discouraged and Albina is so impatient so unreconcil'd & fretted it perhaps makes him more so

I dont know what to do I've been talking & talking to try to reconcile all round but I am only an old woman and not worth minding & am a great deal too apt to speak my opinion & often think I will reform in that thing but still keep failing to do it

Charles is apt to hang on and stick to any piece of work he gets about just because he wants to see the result or end thereof and he and perhaps you for him, ought to guard against it but what I feel the most about is the fear that he will get sick —

we are expecting Dr. De Witt
and his wife and daughter day af
ter tomorrow I think I shall go back
with her as far a Bangor and per-
haps take Charlie with me A
wants to have him go if Lucy
is well enough to have him
Anna wrote to me that she wants
me to go home with her hard & better
or not — I want to be at Bangor
this fall — but perhaps should
never have so good an opportunity
to go, as I could go with them and
return with you when you come

But Maria expects to be sick
next months and tho' I could do no
good I should rather be about there
& E. & M. seem to want I should
Charlie needs a father or some one
to govern him mildly but with
firmness — he is a good boy but now
he goes to school he has a great many
uncouth & naughty ways & don't mind his
mother so quick as he should sometimes

I feel sad about it that I could n't have that dear little ~~Gonie~~ Conie Mayo longer I did love him so but did n't have him long enough to get him to love me — but you will bring him & his mother here again in the fall

There are scores of reasons for Charles's being at home but if he feels sure that it is better all things consider'd for him to be there we ought not to be so selfish as to want to hasten his return before the time that he thinks best — tell him to consider & be sure and be careful of his health — one of his reasons for staying — that Peaches would be sick by & bye; seems quite ridiculous when I feels so anxious to have him come home

Charlie has put'd up a tall dead cedar tree & with much labor has set it up in four different places successively for a Liberty pole he is all the time doing at something but without much stability or design

Albina has a letter partly written to Charles but is not intending to send it till she has one from him which she is expecting next wednesday A.M. mail do write often and particularly I fear I shant know much about Charles after I go from home as he will send all his letters here

Mother Miss July 29. 1883

July 29, 1837

Courtyard Mito July 25th /54

[illegible]

[illegible] you will [illegible] I am sorry that [illegible] not [illegible] I [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

set the time that he will certainly be at home in August — I know it is hard for her but chiefly be cause of her peculiar temperament she is naturally impatient & easily overcome by any thing disagreeable & think she does try very much to get the better of it & is to be pitied — the Children all do as well & she has every thing as comfortable as could be expected Walter is well enough to do the chores about home and take care of every thing

My Son Dr De Witt seems to be a very fine man & like him much & perhaps am a little proud of him have n't a first rate lot of sons "any way" or ½ a dozen at any rate where will you find three "likelies" folks than Mr. Rider De Witt and Farther the Dr says he must not be hired at any price to leave & want to where Mr. Rider does because of the ties 26th Mr. Rider & Mr. Kittredge & their wives have been here this afternoon — Mr. De Witt & folks expect to go to Bangor tomorrow — I expect to go friday or saturday

We rather expected a letter from Charles yesterday Do let me hear from you often

Mrs Lyon
Aug 25 1837
Bangor Aug 8 1837

Mother Aug. 7 54 Dear

poor little is very sick the dear little boy has not been well all summer and Lucy is very much exausted & run down She has had a very hard time this summer She could not get good help her energys of mind and body have been too severely taxed if Percie gets better she will soon get rested but oh! if he should not —— But the Dr. talks encouragingly. & he has a little appetite to day we hope the worst is over — but none can tell we have had a long spell of hot dry weather not dry enough to hurt the corn I guess July 28th the day I came down here the corn was tassel'd out & it looked a beautiful dark green color & has all the time grown finely tho' it was planted late In regard to the seed I got Sam'l to enquire the price he finds that it is very low 25 cents only for unwash'd perhaps it will fetch more at Foxcroft —— I've been reading a letter you sent to Ethel Dated July 28th you say that S. Conant has Start for home I am glad of it but I have some fears that I shall hear ~~that~~ he is sick he is so nervous & anxious

like his Mother — No if he should be sick & die I should probably not hear any thing a bout it for they will not write Oh! how I can you live in. so much dust and hot weather & you have to ride a good deal too I suppose How glad I shall be when you get releas'd from your bondage in Egypt — Anna insists that I shall go to Elysian & spend the winter possibly I may if any body happens to be going to take care of me but I am to old to attempt to go alone anywhere I don't know but she would have compell'd me to go with her if it had not been that mamma was so very expecting — her wish is that I should first become regenerated by having a set of false teeth — It certainly is a great hardship to me to do any thing for the gratification of my Children but that would be a little more than I could very willingly come up to I had a letter from Nettie last week but not with so much soon — I am afraid Charles is too anxious about getting money — money is useful sometimes but cannot confer happiness — O do consider & try to make G. consider how short the time is and Eternity Eternity how vast

with to you Mother

Bangor August 7th

My Dear Dear boys I feel exceedingly anxious to hear from you I have written you 3 letters & believe certainly 2 since I heard had any from you Albina & I both wrote the day that she had your letter containing your decision to stay longer I have written 2 or 3 times since & she has every week — I don't know what to say to you Charles about staying so long — there are reasons enough why you need to be at home some of which I will mention one is Walters wife expects to be sick in Nov. or Dec and he talks that he wants to go to provide a place to live — I don't see why he would not be content to stay where he is as he can not do much work and having home but his wife wants to be keeping house however it is very natural that he should want to know just what you would be willing to give &c. — He painted the house one coat except the in the spring then it was time to do something else — or he was not well enough back side and the piazza — there is some paint left which is drying all up — and numerous things might be thought of which you need to attend to — none of very great moment but

I don't know you are still in Mr Warren's with Dr Wadsworth
certainly I think it would be best for you to stay there
has all the sickness of Chagres & besides how do you expect to escape
Hattie will be sure to have the fever & ague if you come home just as the cold weather commences
Heaven knows you ought to consider well & think
& pray about it & then do what you feel
is right to do. I want to see you very much
but I would rather you would stay
where you are than to come home
& have Hattie sick with the fever & ague
& I am afraid you would be sick
& have it too. I am afraid
you will be homesick
& lonesome
but I would rather
you would stay
where you are
than to come home
& have Hattie sick
with the fever & ague

The real thing as it appears to me is the risk you run of being sick & the disappointment and expense that one or perhaps both of you are keeping Chagres in general & Panama in particular has about it — I am so sorry to hear so much about the Chagres fever now — we hear so much about the fever & ague if you come home just as the cold weather commences you ought to consider well & think & pray about it & then do what you feel is right to do. I want to see you very much but I would rather you would stay where you are than to come home & have Hattie sick with the fever & ague & I am afraid you would be sick & have it too. I am afraid you will be homesick & lonesome

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The real thing as it appears to me is the risk you run of being sick & the disappointment and expense that one or perhaps both of you are keeping Chagres in general & Panama in particular has about it — I am so sorry to hear so much about the Chagres fever now — we hear so much about

Mother Lacy
Aug. 24 1854

Bangor Aug 24. 1854

Charles "to a man lady when he learned that his father was going to send to me Grandmother would write to Father to come right home. as soon as he get the letter Will Rines sent me by Evening mail.

Illy Dear boys Am very much obliged to you Isaac for your letter of Aug. 13th I am very glad— & thank you very much for writing to me —— I do think it a very great blessing that you have both been so well— I fear we are not duly thankful for it, & other innumerable blessings

I came here July 28th poor little Percie has been sick almost all the time since —— He has not been so sick but he would take notice & play a little every day —— but to play about on the floor or take care of himself he has not an how this for 3 or 4 weeks he is very poor & pale continues bad state of the bowels & teething weighs 18½ lbs

You say I sang 29 to travel about & think I do some, I certainly don't sing in one place so much as Sister Lemont does, I haint been to Milo to Bangor & back pretty often —— that's as far as I have been alone —— Should very like to go to Dunbarton & to Elysian

you tell about coming east after your family —— what do you mean —— you don't think to take Anderson & baby away out there just to stay next winter do you —— such a hard an

expensive journey with a baby — I am sorry Sayan
"but then it is nothing to California — suppose
you were to be gone 3 or 4 years — why you have not
been four months from your family yet, besides
you have only one Child to leave & C. has three &
what adds exceedingly to all the rest with Albine is
she has the care of house keeping — Fanny affairs
&c. &c. She does feel very much troubled & destressed
says her heart will break — finally I do suppose
& I believe we all do that C ought to have come home
last Spring — whether it will do for him to come
now on account of his health I dont know. I doubt
whether he ought to stay on account of the money he
can get — for he could get wages enough here com-
mon Irishmen get here in Bangor from 2,50 to
300, a day & hard to get help at all — here Chaises
& taxes
expenses are great at home — but the greatest
consideration is that Albine takes it so hard I
think that any other of my six girls would get
along with it with more fortitude

It does seem as if Walter might consider it a good chance
that he has there even if he gets not much besides the
board of himself & family as he has no other home &
cannot work — Albine wrote me that "Charles gives
him a good chance but she did not tell what

It does seem also as if Albine might have help up
to endure the "care & trials" of C.'s being gone a little
longer & perhaps she would rather Nan have been sent just
as the cold weather commences & make him sick
ever knowing wrother

Bangor Aug 27th 1854

My very Dear Boy,

I will just inform you that you have a little neice born Saturday morning Aug. 26th 7½ o'clock weighed 7 lbs both mother & baby not merely comfortable but smart Maria says she could come down stairs this morning as well as not— They think it is all owing to the use of Sits bathes that she is so smart & well— but probably she will not feel so well a few days hence as she does now

We think Persis is better but he has been better & worse again so many times he has not been so any day except one or two, when he was so sick 2 weeks ago but he would look about & play a little— but cannot go alone— tho' he did a little when I first came here— Lucy has had a hard time this summer She looks now more like a ghost than a well person— & She cannot recruit herself very much till Persis get better & try to help her some but you know the Mother is all in all for a sick child tho' he is very contented with me if she is not in sight

Mother wants me to write, but I have written so lately, that there seems to be little else to write but the news, and that Father does within - The little damosel up stairs is fat & plump, but I can by no means call her fair - She is extremely modest and blushes scarlet red all the time. I have written to Anna, Nettie &c. We hope to hear from you soon - I had a dear letter from Nettie a day or two since - Poor little Percie does not seem so well today - but his tooth must come through soon - It is rather warm, but dry, P. P. feels miserably, so does Mother, so do I - L. Clarke from Hartford preaches this afternoon. The baby is a day & a half old & Hattie says she could come down stairs as well as I could. She is very well. We are a little puzzled we send two names in our last letter & don't know

staying - Lu was only on Albina's account, and we wrote to her to counteract it when she next wrote, if she felt to. Commencement this week - some of the strangers here today - Gov. Crane, from N. Y. City preached this morning. So write often because we feel greatly anxious for your healths. With much love -

Sister Lucy.

Mother Bangor
Aug. 27. 1834

Births of

John

Mother Bangor
Sept 27, 1853
Oct 07 Sept 27th 1854 Bangor

My Dear boys We have just received
letters from you both Dated Sept 17th
O how glad I am & how I thank you for writing
such letters — Albion sent me her letter too — from
Charles of Sept. 10th I think Charles must
have been puzzled & tried about coming home
Lucy & I were very sorry we wrote so much about
his coming home should n't if it had not been
for Albion (She is not a suitable person to leave)
it seems as if she has been comfortably situated except
2 or 3 weeks last march if it were not for this one
idea (That seemed to possess her mind entirely)
"Charles must come home" Walter has talked
& I suspect pretended some about staying but
inside I think he has wanted to stay all the while
will perhaps ask more favors than Cousin he will
my forgive, he & George do have a very easy time

you speak about going to Dunbarton how I
wish we could & should really like to but it is not
at all likely that Bessie will be well enough
before the weather will be to cold

we think he really is recovering now but is very feeble cannot walk or play about on the floor at all it takes one of us all the time to take care of him — Lucy holds and wonders fully but she looks as if she could'nt hold up her head or keep her eyes open — but she'll soon recruit as Percie gets well

Eliot is gone to Boston, he & S talk some about parting — I expect from their talk that they are to have very "tight" times about money — good many others in the same predicament — Water Co. have not much saving no freights for vessels &c — Father bad for Ethel to be setting up housekeeping just at this time as it must take considerable money — he has been paying rent for his house ($16, a year) since the first of this month I believe expects to move from here in a week or two

Marion & baby getting along nicely she expects her eldest sister to come and help her about "setting up housekeeping and that her youngest sister will come and

spend the winter with her

Don't you think that Chas. Lois health will disappear if he comes home just as the cold weather comences — he is needed at home to put things to rights & I should be very glad he is coming if it was not for the fear I have about his health

They will have done all the Hoeing by I guess for there was very little to do the dry weather and the frost I suppose killed the Corn and most of the Oats — Albina said Walter & George were cutting down the Alders just below the knowls by that little old bridge for firewood — I told her that I the 12, a month & six dollars for board that George's labor would cost would buy more wood than he would get in a month in that way

Walter has not calculated basines as well and done as much work as I expected —

Mr. Riders boys take Strength of going off west & I guess Mr. Kittredge will, to look & see how they like

godson I think it would be well for Charles if he is coming home before winter, to come and be here a little before the ground freezes up i.e. if he means to carry on his farm next year — he'll find things out of the more than he expects perhaps I don't know but little about it but it seems to me that learning up that little part of Elder business is of much necessity

If Frances can't meet us at the Pearl like Mary — Hattie says he runs at about eleven the Butterflies, during the Turkeys &c. but I need not tell you for I know you hear of all his noble deeds — Athens has left so bad herself that she has not told C. so much about the children

Charlie is to come here and spend the winter unless his father decidedly. That was the understanding when we thought he was going to stay with Hattie winter — he has been at his grandfather most of the time for weeks past which pleases exceedingly — the seed sown in his mind & heart among the boys here will be hard to eradicate a child at his age needs the constant watchfulness of a loving mother but I suppose all that can't be avoided even in the best home & with he could have been here but it has not been unmixed evil — it will be comfort now & then to have Charlie & so home about the home but I hope he'll have some training which I feel is evidently to be as well as we can

Guess I can't tell you how thankful I am that you are so well, & as to letters to me when you get your return you know you left it up from all evil

Mother. Bangor Sept. 27, 1854
Dunbarton Sept 30. 1854

Bangor Sept 27th 54

My Dear Daughter

~~An~~ Apology I feel that I owe an apology for not writing to you — I find many & many excuses, my ill state of health writing as I now do & when I do so here especially I continue to put it off on to day as much as I can — If I could not, and could express my thoughts and feelings with as much ease & facility as you and Lucy can — I could better tell you how much I love & care for you & the Dear little Mayo — And how ardently I long to become more acquainted

But when I think of my absent ones and the small prospect there is of my 'ever with them much more and knowing their feelings their joys & their sorrows as I did to when they were all with me. ——— My consolation is in the hope

that we may all meet in the "old mans Home" ——— a permanent home, where hearts meets heart — where Sorrow & Sickness and parting never come

I have thankful I ought to be (& I think I am) that I have such good Children — all of them so good — How good & kind Isaac is about writing it is a great comfort to me — we had letters from him & Charles yesterday. Charles talks of coming home we shall expect him in a month or six weeks — I feel very much afraid he will be sick in consequence of coming so late in the season

Albert has worried so much about his coming home that he has concluded to come there is no doubt but that he wants to come enough but I believe he had thought it would be very much for his interest to stay till near Spring — I hope when Isaac comes you you & little Mayo can spend a good long time I do long so to be more acquainted with the baby Mayo I dont know but he is getting to be too smart to be

call'd a baby I was greatly amus'd to hear about his driving the Turkeys &c No doubt but he's his Fathers own Child

How I do wish we could go to Dunbarton but the dear little Percie is so feeble that we have no reason to expect he could bear the journey this fall — Lucy ~~Hamilton~~ holds out wonderfully but she looks as if she could not hold her head up or keep her eyes open Percie is nervous & unstable it takes one of us all the time & sometime both to take care of him Lucy has been so perfectly devoted to him & seems too that I have fear'd he would be taken away on that we ought to Gods requiring of his Children the whole heart but he is Long suffering & Gracious [redacted] you are very good & kind in writing to me when you get such poor returns it is a favor & a great gratification to me to hear from you — any thing which concerns you is interesting for me to know.

My love & respects to your dear Parents Sister we could have the pleasure of seeing them

here and your Brother and Sisters also
We had a letter from Athens Tuesday
little Mary was a good deal better tho'
not quite well — we expect Charles to
come here in a week or two to stay as his
perhaps all winter or till I go home I don't
know whether I shall stay here all the winter
or not ——

yesterday Mrs Carlisles Jewett
and Miss Hannah Moore took tea with
us — Eliab is gone to Boston Maria and
the little one are getting along nicely has
not Eliab got a good wife! don't you love
her I am sure I do & I wish I was more
worthy of such good Children as I have —
Kiss the Dear little Mayo for me
from ever affectionate Mother

My Dear Sons Bangor Oct. 14th

I have written to both of you not long since & have had letters from you both within a few days — I thank you very much for writing frequently

You complain of the irregularity of the mails. It is bad enough at the best to be so far away that we cannot send & get a return in less than 3 or 4 weeks but I hope you will not always be so far away

You speak of rain — we have had showers but not rain enough yet to raise the streams at all & the effect is very disastrous to Bangor — Some heavy failures I believe they say — S. & E. are trembling somewhat I suspect

I feel sorry for your loneliness but you should not think about that — Be thankful instead that you have lov'd & loving ones to care for you & be cared for —

Did'nt you receive [illegible] sending the account of the meeting of the "Board" at Hartford I'm sure I did

How very thankful we ought to be that you both have been so well. Poor Mr Rides Amy has written all about it — It has been a trying scene for all of us — this Countenance will be much disfigured but that is not the worst the Dr told Sam'l that it was the worst kind of Cancer i.e. in the skin to cure that it would probably break out again & eventually cause his death — very trying for Almeda as well as all the rest — by the way, Charles why have you not written to Almeda more? — tho' you have had a good many letters to write & you've done well — but perhaps the Hen's not had her share

Almeda has written to Sally to go & take care for her while she is gone from home I suppose Walter will go from our house now they expect you home but Aunt George stays I suppose & they'll do well I guess I am sorry that you have been so harass'd with news from home on your back of the right news at the right time they have all been getting along pretty well all the while if they could only think so May God be with you & keep you both in peace & safety & grant you every Comfort till you meet again

Mother

Mother & Lucy

Nov. 14, 1834

Bangor Nov. 14 – 1834

My Dear Sons.

We had a letter from you Isaac a few days since giving an account of the shocking and most distressing R. R. accident Oh that poor young widow! How exceedingly shocked and distress'd you must have been & my Dear Sons what a solemn warning to you — "Be ye also ready."

I want to hear more particularly from you both I fear that I shall hear that you are sick after so much excitement & fatigue

It does seem as if it must speak very plain to you "prepare to meet thy God" Indeed we have all, at all times reason enough, occasion enough if we would heed it to feel there is but a step between us and death — & if we are indeed united to Christ by a living faith tis of little

consequence when or where or by what means we meet death

Percie seems to be about well now and we are all in good health — we are having a fine rain such a rain as we have not had since last Spring — a very unusual and long drought Sam'l is gone to Old Town to day to see about his logs

I suppose you hear from Milo frequently Charlie came down here a week ago last Saturday they were all well there he is a pretty good boy but terribly full of business

I want to know whether you and Charles are both coming home together — & whether you, your wife & Baby will spend a good long time at Milo so that I can become better acquainted with them

Lucy is not quite as well as usual she does so frequently get too much fatigued before she is aware of it that I dont know as she ever will be well if she dont do better about it

Percie is getting along nicely is just cutting his eye teeth which makes him restless, nights especially

Charlie is a noble good boy but all the time wanting something to do — takes care of the Cow entirely does errands and every thing we can find for him to do is gone now down to Cumberland Street to his Uncle Elisabs to do an errand

Mother wishes me to finish this - I don't seem to have much to say. Don't know whether I am to blame for being so much of the time ailing - know that I have infinities both of body and Spirit. But how dreadful the news in your last Letter - how much more it has affected us than the death of hundreds or thousands in a more dreadful manner, if possible, in some other cases. It seems as though, we ought to bring Thank Offerings, as a family, for Sparing and preserving mercy. Our little Percie is

nicely except his teeth - he has fourteen -
others badly swollen and troublesome -
don't you think Theyo is quite behind? I hope
he will not cut them harder for waiting. It is
fortunate that it will probably be in cold
weather. That is, unless he goes till another
summer! He is more forward than Percie, as
Nettie writes about him. Percie don't go out
doors alone at all. He tries to say a good
many words, but hardly any plainly enough
so that a stranger would understand. Charlie
is a nice little boy; would enjoy (advantageously, for aught I know) the general
business of the family, if desired! I
imagine his father wants to see him some,
as well as the other children. He amuses Ellen,
our girl very much - she thinks him a child
needing care all the time, whereas he takes care
of her almost & assists our family. She
laughs so hard once in a while. Effie Swain
is sick, the brother of the Salem or Broadway
family. Cant work. Get Willie sympathy. Be
good & write often. Send up some curiosities
a-mixing with Tom Charles, won't you? good bye - Lis Lucy

Mother Elyria Jan 22, 1882
Dumbarton Jan 26. 1882

Elyria Jan 22

My Dear Daughter

I intended to have written
to you sometime ago but was sure I should
now soon see you & that short days. Life was
one after another I suppose. Isaac has
written often & has informed you of all about
our journey & the dreadful scene at
the Delaven House — what a merciful
interposition of Providence — how can
we be thankful enough that this dear
life was saved — how quick is thought
in my destiny it seems as if I thought
of almost everything (while he lay talk-
ing incoherently without knowing what
he said) of Paralysis & all dread fulness
nesses of his wife & dear little ones of my
own helplessness — I did not know at first
that Coal Gas had any such effect. —

I have left here last Wednesday the 16th
I cannot but feel anxious about him still

the time I know I need not for I suppose he is as capable out of danger as any body else but we are none of us our own keepers

Now I do want to see all the dear little boys — & may you all be kept in health

I have seen but very little of Elynia as yet I have had a cold & some headache the weather has been cold & stormy unusually so they say. Snow enough for good sleighing ever since I came here

Anna has got a very pleasant and convenient house & indeed every thing she can reasonably invent But her health is not quite as good as usual She is thin of flesh and looks pale But she does a good deal of work is flying round with great neat every forenoon I think she has worked too hard the past few months repairing & altering the house has occasioned a great deal of fixing & arranging furniture fitting Carpets — Curtains &c. &c. &c.

She does most of her ~~own~~ Cooking herself i.e. She attends to & directs it all & labors vigorously about cakes & pies &c. Besides which she is giving lessons in French to Miss Woodbury & Hattie — Mrs Woodbury has been here you know since last August She has lately commenced a School — one of the public schools and boards here. She has rather an uncouth figure short & thick but a person of a fine mind very pleasant & agreeable Hattie attends the high School She has improv'd very much since I saw her. There are some things disagreeable in her manners now but I think she will make even now a very fine character — The Doctor seems to be as happy as a man need wish to be — Libby is a little lumpish ing prattlesome affectionate girl but greatly afflicted with weak eyes has been kept from school more than a year because of her eyes

So my Dear Daughter let me
hear from you often every
thing you can tell me about the
little ones or yourself is interesting
to me Tell Hargo Grandmother thinks
of him every day & wants him to be a
very good obedient boy & very kind to
the dear little Twins — and go and
play out in the barn alone and
out doors when it is warm it will
make him strong & healthy
I have got some Delaine to put some
new Sleeves in my black dress — have got
a new black velvet Bonnet very plain
& very much to my liking Anna did very
thing about getting it made
I shall always look back with pleasure
on the time I spent at Dunbarton
much love & respect to your good Father
& Mother & many kisses to the little
boys — I [illegible] quite at home already
expect to pass my time very pleasantly
surely God has been very good to me in all
the afflictions of my life he has remembered
mercy from your loving Mother
A. M. N.

Elyria jan. 21 - 11

My dear Son

I am very much obliged to you for your letter of Jan 20th in answering also for one to Chicago you dear Son I am very glad where ever you go. It has been very cold of late. Fanny most of the time. I had a letter from Lucy Dated Jan 19 - Tom has a bad cold Ella & Elsa [illegible] a narrow escape She fell down the back stairs with [illegible] arms in the dark She was bruised considerably but Baby was not hurt — Mr Rider & Minnie were here again to see Dr Mckee [illegible] at to perform another operation on [illegible] place under his [illegible] present is [illegible] to read it without Master Mamie is at his Fathers all this winter [illegible] having cut it is leg just above the knee in the wood

He suffer'd a great deal before they could get him home Dr Mckies think's Mr Rivers death every way improv'd — it promises it to regulate diet & Bramping like Mr Keiser think's of Dr Greens medicine

I have a letter from Wethie dated 21st the Children are well — all the folks get along nicely I think Mr Rice not feel at all troubled about it — as I am I am much to see the Babies

My [illegible] Cold almost gone have not been out to meeting till yesterday because of the cold stormy weather

a letter came here directed to you from your friend Mitchel — he Mailed at Bangor had been there some time Seven Dale Dec 23 Sent — here it is of no great consequence to you now as you have seen him

with much love and prayer for your safety and happiness

your Mother

Mother Elyria Ohio
Jan 12 1856

I have not written
to J. Stevens Anna
thought it not best

Mother, Elyria Ohio
Feb. 23 1856

Elyria Feb 23rd 56

We are in some considerable anxiety because of not hearing from you all this time I hope & expect great long letters to night & would wait to read them before sending this but his Saturday & moreover Anna has felt somewhat confused all along because She did not say more particularly to you about that Book to keep all the authors / our laundry — unwieldy secret I hope you have not yet sent any to Bangor & will not without a Special Change I am impatient to get letters from you with much love to you all & many Kisses for all the Babies good bye I hope Mary not forget me please burn this quick

Mother Elyria Ohio
March 12-18, 1856

Elyria March 12th 56

My Dear Son. I have been thinking a good deal about you of late, as usual — Shall feel a little more anxious as I do not yet because of your not knowing exactly what is to be your future course or place of residence. You could settle down in Dunbarton or in almost any other place. One if faithful as a Christian to be useful & happy — But it seems to me that with your knowledge of western life you might & ought with your experience, your ability & your energy of will & character to take upon you the battle of life, in some place where you can do the most good

There is a trait or spot or whatever you please to call it, in you which inclines you to settle down below what you might and ought to attain to (come honestly by it, perhaps, Charles and Almeda also) you ought to guard against it. One way is to strive for such a position in life that you will be called upon — necessitated — to act — I don't mean physically but Morally — intellectually — It is not right for you to think that you may live only for yourself & your family — Not that I think you do so more than others — but that

but that you are more to be blam'd if you do, why? because it is worse to bury five talents than one

Rouse up then & place yourself where there is a great deal of good to be done and do it—

I grieve to think of your Christian influence and progress in the divine life compared with what it might & ought to be — If you will have the earnest decision & piety and heavenly indowment what an influence for good you might wield in the West — 'Tis your duty & your privilege, do it

"Life is earnest life is real" — There I have rattled what I happen'd to be thinking & you may not say what a goat! to be so much like a guide board

When I look back (from the end of the track or so it likes me to call it) and see how little — how less than nothing of what I ought to have done & might have done by the help of divine grace which is said to have been granted if earnestly enough sought for It makes me very anxious that my Children should do some good in the world Should make up any lack of service I feel that I have not done what I could Tho' what I could was so little

We have been reading "Biographical Sketches & Sermons of Mr Reuben Tinker" with much pleasure and with edification & hope

13th March

I have been looking for a letter from you this forenoon. I just suppose there is one on the way the Illness have been very irregular. The Dr has just been to the P.O. & comes back with the usual story no Mail — News by Telegraph that there was no Mail east or west for 36 hours from Buffalo and Normanby still Annie had another Party a few days since the Minister the Mayor the judge member of Congress & the elite to the number of 35 or 40 — The Tea consisted oysters soup biscuit & butter cold meat (cut thin as a wafer) Cheese pickles jelly & Cake in variety and abundance — a very pleasant time very good pleasant people Anna & Dr seem to be loved and look'd up to by all the People round & they treat me with very mark'd respect for their sake

I began this some days ago & have been wanting & waiting to hear from you before I send it

We have seen a good many notices of Home all pretty good or indifferent except one in the "Criterion N. Y." which was quite severe & rather unfair — call'd it "dull as a dime tony" & much else as bad — Annie felt highly gratified with the last sentence from the Saturday Review — "Lady of Elyrie," & then taken all aback by a little in a Cleveland paper — "Lady of Elyria," however there is a good many ladies in Elyria I send you some slips cut from News papers if you think best send them to L. when you have read 'em

If I can get a letter from you today I shall write this along to, and out the window I have had a little touch of rheumatism it was as much as I could do to get out of my chair but am much better today

The Dr & Anna talk of going to Stillwater [Tuskilwa] to see Deaves the latter part of spring & say that if Sam'l & Lucy will come here they will go up to St. Paul as the Dr says he means to see that region some time — I have written to Lucy to let us know whether they can go this Spring —— Deaves writes on a letter to his Father " he thank Mother for her kind Sympathies and believe her one of the best of Mothers & a choice blessing to a family. He love her in every sense of the word he did not believe there could be such a Mother friend who could steal the affections of every one who knows her

March 18th

I just received your letter which I have been so long waiting for and must hurry to get this in the Mail hasty it am so glad to hear that you are all well. Love to all the folks,

Do write as often to your Mother

Elyria May 2nd 56

My Dear Son

I received your letter on the 29 just four days after the date of it — the last I rec'd from Bangor was 7 days on the way I thank you very much for your promptness in writing and for your very kind offer to meet us on the way — We now think of starting Tuesday morning 18th of May — I am afraid it is too early in the season but there are reasons why it is most convenient to go then rather not start off till the 26 or 27 And that would make Anna's visit very short as the Dr. thinks he must be back by 1st of July because of his business in the Bank — we shall not get through Tickets to Boston and stopping a day or two & Anna thinks — get along to Portland we travel your coming to meet us as it will save me some expense then we may save enough to pay for it now

I can't of course tell you just when we shall be at Parkers but perhaps we can let you know after we get to Boston — The grass is up looking very green & beautiful — the leaves are out on the apple trees so that they look quite

Mother M. Elysia

May 2 - 1886

Dumbarton

green. the cherry trees in blossom but the Peach trees the Dr. says are as good as dead some few of them perhaps will put out a few leaves but no blossom

Anna is very much driven, fixing dresses bonnets &c &c for her girls & herself own things for her journey —— we have had some very warm days but to day (& most of the days) there is a cold wind from the lake that makes a fire very comfortable I wish I could tell you just where we shall get along so that you could be at Darken —— But we can not even tell what shall be in the Morrow

I suppose you go so early the Earth & the Trees will hardly have got their Spring Dress In much haste with much love to you all from your Mother

If you are writing
to Lizzy please
tell her we are
coming

My Dear Son I will just say that we now expect to start from Cleveland on Wednesday at 3 or 4 o.m. on the Lightning express train & get to Boston without stopping I don't think it would be any harder than to stop at any Hotel on the way without any Gentleman to take care of us — Therefore if we have no disaster or unnecessary delay we will be at Parkers Saturday i.e. we expect to get into Boston Thursday morning spend one day there & go to D. Saturday — It is barely possible that we may get to ——— The Sabbath in B. if Mrs. C. Chase who Anna wishes to see is yet there

I received a letter from Lucy last night from which I learn that she suffers with Cough & pain in her side & feel very anxious about her — Andrew had to get there

Ann & the baby & Jordan will go with us to Bangor

Norton Ph. Clymer Mary 1845

Dunbarton.

I am very afraid this will not reach you soon enough for you to meet us at Parkers but we can find some way to get along.

If it should so happen that we dont get to Boston till friday night we may conclude to spend the Sabbath there — But [illegible] I am only guess —

Much love to you all

from your Mother

Monday May 12th /'66

Letter Bangor Me.
June 15 1856

Bangor June 15th 1856

Dear William

Bangor June 15th 1856

It Sunday night 10 o'clock and I feel as I must write a little at least before I go to bed for you will see from the date I am at home & perhaps to have written to you before but there seems to be something all the time to do — Before I had rather a bad cold & Anna & Lucy would feel rather bad if they found him out I was in bed — I suppose you will have heard it was from Lucy — But I would by no means that it fell on — Ellen Cousins & Granny seem to be about the same except that Anna says you were here She has just now come & had broken Granny's — [illegible] has had seven fevers in his side which [illegible] at a time so severe the cold sweat stood on 2 or 3 hours

Dr Dethill says he cannot tell — until the fever that her lungs are not as yet affected but it is all occasioned by the excessive [illegible] He recommends injection of Wheat [illegible] out, a little anodyne Laudanum or something of the kind — think we shall [illegible] as it seems as if it could do no harm — [illegible] as the [illegible] I just came here but she does not seem to have so much fever as she has [illegible] This is [illegible] She is gone to [illegible] [illegible]

but we have hope that all may yet be well

The things have come up much in the garden and they need the rain badly. Sarah has to work again tonight, & has a great deal to discourage him every way. Edwin came down with Emma Friday afternoon left — I was very glad you sent to Lowell why did not you tell me something more about J. M. Metcalfs family & where Caleb, Enoch, & Charles are Eliab had a letter from your uncle Zebadiah he-can, seems that he has heard nothing from our family for a long time. The Dr. came here last thursday night. Can it be a week fortnight since we were over away — I'm sorry I have not written sooner will try to do better. God bless you & keep you from all evil. Much love to Dear Little Mayo to the little brothers and to you all from

your Mother

Bangor July 3rd 1858

My Dear Son

I believe I have not had any answer to my last letter I sent my answers to hear from you & yours of your excursion to the White mountains &c

I suppose you would like to hear from Lucy but I hardly know what to tell you now & then she seems to be getting better But I cant perceive that she has gained strength any & I am sure she has been losing flesh all the while her cough dont seem now quite so bad as it has been. She raises about as much she has raised bad looking matter — green & dark some blood some pain in her side occasionally they severe which gets relieved after a few hours by means of

Mrs Lucy Dana Patterson

not mustard Poultice her
food does not trouble her quite as much
since She has Strawberries green Peas
&c. & her appetite is good It seems
as if She would gain strength soon
if She could keep her food down
I have not been out since I
came here except one afternoon
to Meetings & once to ride with
with Eliab — I might have gone
but didn't feel like it
Mattie took Percy down to
yesterday got a very fine likeness
of him to send to Minnesota
Mary Ely & Fanny Beach are having
a fine time riding about &c.
4th Eliab himself for a wonder
& Marion Cattell up here this morn
ing & brought your letter what a
fine time you must have had
but how is it possible that Aun
could have endured so much fa
tigue I am afraid she and the

Dr. Doc will be sick a month
to pay for it I think they'll not
have much time to spend at
Saratoga and get home at the
time he proposed to

What is the matter with Nellie
tell her I want to know more fre-
quently about her health Do
the babies begin to want to run
alone any

Tell Mary that Percy has
got a beautiful little house
Noah's Ark with one hundred
Beasts & Birds of every shape
& size they look real cunning
I have laid away a great propor-
tion of them for their horns &
legs & tails are so easily broken
he has mutilated almost all
of those that he has had to play
with

I have felt very much discouraged about Lucy sometimes and but for she has about herself tho' she is you know very hopefull— one day she wanted me to bring her the looking Glass after looking I said in a careless manner— well what do you think of yourself— a sad look came over her face & she answered I think I shall never get well that is what I think

But for 2 or 3 days past she does certainly seem to be better she may be all down again by Xmas— but I feel very much encouraged now— Strawberries & green Peas seem to set better on her Stomach than any thing she has had

Do my Dear Children write often let me know your thoughts & feelings & plans much love to you

Parents & you all from yours

Mother

Mother Fayette.

July 22 '56

Darwin Bangor July 22nd /56

My Dear Father -

I feel as if I must write some to you tho' I believe I have written to you since I have [illegible] but I need one from you to tell me a few things more. I can write you no good news of Lucy for I can't. I cannot tell [illegible] you know how the matters were here if seems to me that she grows more nervous every day. She seems more irritable than ever since the natural heat has come on. She has had effects of pain in her side which lasts 1, 2, or 3 days & then subsides a little leaving her weak & languid, her cough & raising continue about the same as ever & she needs it causes such a trembling pain in her left shoulder & vomiting 3 or 4 times a day & it is so distressing when she does so hard me

me have to hold on to her back &
shoulder I have felt very much
concerned about her — have some-
times feard that she could not live but
a short time But she is yesterday
& today a little more comfortable
she can take no medicine everything the
least particle almost nauseates the Dr.
says his sympathy with the diseased state
of the Lungs that makes such a State
of the Stomach Whether she is spared
to us or not I fear she has got to endure
a great deal of suffering — Dear
patient & uncomplaining Child
Pray for her my Children — & for
me that my health & strength may
hold out. & helps me be thankful that
I can be with her take care of her
She has had many fevers in the afternoon
with the hectic flush, sweld feet &
sweating dreadfully when she sleeps
has to sit up most all of the time be-
cause of her Cough

Thursday morning

24th Lucy remains a little more comfortable slept last night better than she has for considerable time — I feel some encouraged about her as I have a day or two at a time often before — O if it could last —

I suppose you have been informed that Charles & Albert came down made us a good visit on the 8th stayed 2 nights 9th Mr. Rider Almeda (& Eldridge to bring them) came Lucy got very tired before they got fixt away to Boston Mr. R. decided to go & see Dr. Green of Boston I have great fears that he had better not have gone & it is very strange that we have not heard from them yet

I have got very weary sometimes not but that it is it has been always with but I feel pretty well now and able to do what I need & it is so much pleasanter for her & me than for any body else to

It seems to relieve her roughness when to be rubbed & her feet & hand bathed which we do often every day — Lizzie has improved greatly she is a great help to me She has a vacation now of seven weeks — & I think we shall keep her at home next term if Lucy is not better much love to you all do write often Let me know your plans and thoughts & doings may God bless you & keep you in health and from all evil

Tell Mayo I want very much to see him & the little twins please kiss them all for me

Dear Isaac & Nettie

I suppose Sam'l has written & kept you informed in regard to Lucy our alternate hopes & fears to day we have a little hope — her cough is the same — but she seems a little stronger — If she gets well it will seem like raising from the dead almost. It is astonishing beyond measure that her strength holds out as it does — such pain and suffering & raising such quantities of such bad matter — She herself is very hopefull. She said to me this morning O how wonderful that my baby is alive It is a happiness almost greater than I can bear if it should die it seems as if I could not live

& I really think that her strong hope & happiness in her child has helpd greatly to sustain her life

The little one is named (by the Mother)
Allie Dewitt I must tell you consider
it—dear birdie I feed it by dabbling
a little fine rag & put one end in its
mouth & let the other lay in a teaspoon
of cream & water till she sucks it all
out which one tablespoonful one an hour
is all I give her at once
How wonderful that I can take the
care of it—necessity you know—The little
thing seems well for one of all the
functions of babyhood I washed it
all over (except the bowels) this morn-
ning & dressed it you cannot think
how difficult it is to keep it warm
(I have a fire on from 8 to 8) I have an
air cushion which I keep around its feet
a silk quilt 1.00 for a blanket with a
flannel one over it It is a very
perfect child—has a very pretty
face We have a strong capable
Nurse who takes care of Lucy
& I devote my time to baby—but
with fear & trembling almost it is
so little

ther) I have thought much about your
going away west how I wish you
could consistently come here — But
as Sam't says there seems to be no
inducement except to be near the
rest of the family he says there
seems to be nothing you could do
to advantage I should be so glad
to have you if it could be best but
I suppose it is not a very healthy
place Eliab says he means to get
away from here on that account
but perhaps he is unnecessarily
alarm'd just now — He got his
family off down river to preserve
their health baby was not well
& yesterday he heard that Maria
is sick he went right down last
evening has not return'd with
come tomorrow morning I suppose
I have a letter from Anne — She
says Isaac has not answered the Dr's
Letter yet / Love to your father & Mother &
to all the folks from your loving
mother

August 10th Lucy says she feels more comfortable today than for four days past which is very encouraging O if it were not for her Cough and distress for breath but yet I feel there is hope

a letter from Mr Rider yesterday his face is swollen more but not more painful

Walker
Aug. 10 1850
Received Aug 12

Bangor Aug. 19

To Isaac & Hattie

Dear Lucy & baby are here yet I have written a week hence great hopes that L. might get better but our hopes grow fainter — our fears stronger She has been comparatively free from pain has rais'd freely with less effort & her strength held out remarkably her feet didn't swell as much — her bowels in good order — But the last 3 days she has a Diarrhea — & to check it she is kept constantly under the influence of Opium is almost all the time in an unquiet restless sleep — her feet are swelling again She don't say much about herself & I suppose we must believe that the time is short with her is not our time short too are we not all passing away

If you go next this fall to go
into any business there; you must
leave your family, you cannot be
with them could only see them at times
you — as you must leave them
in Ivy not at Milo with Charles
if they were further off they might have help
he would do every thing for them
that he could — however I do not feel
competent to advise
I have no time to write more
baby is sick with Cholera infantum She is so little & feeble
she cannot live long if not better soon O how I want to see you
and all

My Prayer for Lucy is not so much
more for her life but that she may feel
more sensibly the encircling arms of
her Savior about her — not but that I
can feel that she is wash'd in this
blood that cleanseth from all sin
her wonderful patience & meekness
under such dreadful sufferings
cannot it

from your loving Mother

Sept 5th 1886

Mrs. Wm Childers

I suppose you want to hear from Bargyer & think as you begin to need this that you have a letter but you'll find is a poor apology for one tho' I feel a good deal better and stronger than when you were here I am so stupid & dull I can hardly think ——— I want very much to hear from you to learn what you are going to Elysian or what you are going to do ——— Sam'l has spoken to Ehat about coming up here to live would like to have him — & it seems as if would be very much for his benefit to do so save him a great deal of expense S. proposed to have them keep house & we board with them it would save 175 Rent and as much in hire. help in the two families but Mattie does not incline to it

would finish a Heating room in back part

I should think that Elizabeth would like it but I guess she will not consent to it — Perhaps it would be too much care &c

It is doubtful whether I can get a girl as housekeeper that will not need some looking after & surely it would be very grievous for me at my age to attempt to "guide the house besides the care of this little one" It is true God is able to give me strength & wisdom to do it as He is able to perform any other miracle — I trust there will be some way found out I expect disagreeables & trials in whatever way unless indeed it should so turn out that you & Lizzy Nettie live which I do not wish you to do if it would be to your detriment — If you have a good chance at Elyria & feel that it is for your best

I would have you go — We are getting along nicely at present Caddie performs her part very well I make out to get Sleep enough while the Baby sleeps — The week that you were here & the 2 or 3 weeks before were very very hard for me I wonder I did'nt quite break down — it — But the promises — Promise is & will be fulfilled — as thy day is so shall thy strength be — I do not mourn I feel a solemn quiet resignation — Almost Joy that I can & always suffering and conflicts are all over that she has arrived to that heaven where I hope to be & the time is short even if I should live to endure many days of pain & suffering in my turn all things are passing away they will soon be gone

Do write frequently I think Nellie for her good letter received

Last night — Lizzie Daye
died Tuesday night was buried yes-
terday was a strange almost all
the time she was sick
Lizzie stays here she commenced
going to school this week
The Dear little Babe is not quite a
well these 2 days past seems more
feeble & languid sleeps a great deal
but don't take its food so well makes
a little and stretches & makes up
all manner of faces I hope it
is not going to be sick
How I should love to see those little
boys. The twins will run alone by
the time they are a year old won't
they? I think that is pretty well
for 8 months babies It will be less
work to take care of them when they
can walk but you'll need your
eyes about you then too
Remember me to your Father & Mother
& much love to you all for — your
Mattie

Sept.
August 6 I got your letter this
this morning Think you must
had a very hard time getting home
I guess as Mayo was so sick Nettie
is as glad. Baby seems quite well
this morning & my health is very
good & they you would not be anxious
about my health — The
wonder is not that I was almost
sick when you were here but
that I was not dead beaten down
Think what I've had daily ever
since I came from Elysia and
the increased anxiety labor and
excitement of the last 5 or 6 weeks
before Lucy died more than you
can think or know
In regard to taking care of Baby — I
have long ago that of my age was
the objection & almost the only
one & find is not as if I was not

[illegible] I will stay with you
health few people enjoy better
health & what might be gained
by having a younger Nurse might
be lacking in affection ate interest
I shall soon manage it so as
not to have the infant sleep
very near to me only so that
I can reach it —— It was Lucy
earnest request that I should take
it said she had thought a great
deal but could think of no
other way so good. I think her
prayers will be answered and
I shall have the health and
strength required to the task
Pray for me my Dear Children
& may God bless you & guide you
in all the way you go

I have made out something of a letter after all
I think. I have ascertained the real reason
why they don't want to come here is Hattie
is so particular fastidious ones too I guess. She wants
to stay with Maria but would not like
to come for certain reasons!!!

Mother
Sept. 10 1856
Granddaughter

Bangor Sept. 10th 1856

My dear Dear Children

O that I could say some thing to comfort you — But I can only point up — the way you know "narrow but pleasant ways" yet alas tis easier to say be reconciled than to fully & freely feel "Thy will O God be done" — I had so long seen that it must be so — that I was in some sort reconciled to Lucy death — But this shark sudden blow — Dear precious Mary I hope not to murmur but I do so. Death on him — I dare'd not say how much — But still the heaviest of it is what I feel for you

I am smitten too in another branch my dear little Lucy that has these five weeks past filled

my mind with tender care & love
was taken to this morning about
7 o'clock it had been failing about
a week with the Bowel Complaint
& it seems to suffer very much
except the last two days. — O how
lonely the house does seem & I
by know what to do with myself
I shall think of, & miss Dear Lucy
much more now — But O how
my heart bleeds for you so much
of hope & promise so suddenly
removed — But this is not our home
let us grieve our hopes & treasures
there where sorrow & sickness never
come where so many Dear ones
are already gathered about the
throne Singing Redeeming love
I do pray for you & I beg you
to pray for me that I may
mend my pace & not grow dull
and faint by the way
Much love to you all from yr Mother

Sept 14 1856

I did'nt feel the extent of my loss when Lucy was first taken away—my mind was all absorb'd with the thought that her dreadful sufferings were ended that she had entered the realms of bliss a glorified Spirit I never before had so great a sense of the unspeakable happiness of being in Christ & with Christ

And now I do not mourn but I do mourn I feel her loss more & more every day every thing reminds me of her — How many times in a day I want her opinion & advice

Do you remember how she always seemed to see at a glance just how every thing ought be & how much we depended on her opinion. how can I get along without her —

But it is all right I would not

if I could call her back for a thousand worlds ——

May God enable us to forget the things that are behind and press forward toward the mark — the time is short —— Pray for me

O how I wish you had had Mary's likeness taken when she was here ——— But I will try to be thankful — thankful that you had such a boy & that I had the happiness of being with him as much as I did wednesday morning

Sept 17th Received your letter this morning O my Dear Children —— How you are afflicted —— But is it not well? Should He not do what he will with his own? We are fast being gathered home O may we at length all be there not one missing

O if it might please them to spare her hand to let it suppurate — But

I do so fear for the rest of you
for you my dear dear Son you
must be by this time all worn
out with watching anxiety & fatigue
after mine. Mattie has just been in here &
tells that they have about concluded
to come up here & feel more miserably
about it than I did before — at first
I wanted they should — thought it
would be better for them. But
now I feel as if they [Mattie &
they have all along been finding up excuses for not
Mattie] do not want to — but feel
as if they must — I feel more of
constraint with them than with you
& Nettie but perhaps it will wear
off — But I can hardly think
of any thing but you & your affliction if you should be taken sick do
please Telegraph to Ehab at once.
& he will go to you

Have you a good physician
what do you do — what do you take

Mr Rudens face has grown more
wry fast he cannot guide that
his teeth together Almeda thinks it
will be thrown to his mouth soon
will suppose exceedingly tense
his life will probably not be long
nor if it it desireth it should be, as
it must be a burden to himself

This is a time of sorrow Lucy
Mayo Dear little baby, & little
sweet Willie where him will come
next O God make us submissive
and patient under thy repeated
strokes & ye consistent with thy
holy will Stay thine hand

Shall you move away Let
us hear from you often
God bless & keep you my dear
children

Yours
A M. Merritt

Mother
April 14 1850

Friday 2d Sept 1836

Dear my Dear Isaac I do feel so thankful that you are such a good boy about writing I have just read a letter which Ebab took from the Office last night dated 24th Sept I am very glad to hear that the Girls are recovering — I have many times wish you may have had them at it as to yourself. Dabbe except of yourself. It would be wonderful if you do escape a fit of sickness after tendring upon the sick so much — so much walking & anxiety — anxiety & excitement is perhaps what has kept you up till now — I am sure if you are not sick you must need a time to recruit & get your wonted health & strength — I should think that George would come & stay this

his
Father & Mother get ready as
quickly as it is necessary for
you to go away for the
probability is that it will be expedient
for you to bring Nettie here to stay
this winter & perhaps next summer
it would be exceedingly pleasant for
me i.e. if it would be convenient
and agreeable to her & you

If we have nobody here but me & you
S. & D. P. Lizzie & I— I shall try to get
along without any hired help— My
health is good & growing better think
I can do what is necessary (bin the washing)
quite comfortably with what Lee
& Lizzie can help —— But if it would
accord with your other arrangements
I should be so glad to have Nettie here
we have supposed that if Nettie gets
well enough & you go west that
it would so happen that Nettie &
the dear little one that is left
would go & stay with Emma

Elliott has had an ill turn
Pauline has not been quite well
for a year or more. His heart is
in an [illegible]—He has had it cut off me
ill ever but it does not stop it coming out
yet perhaps it will—I just had a letter
from Sister Conant she wrote me about a
medicinal Spring—a sick man Mr
Davis dream'd about it—found it and
was cur'd—it is on the Watts place just
a S. W. of Father Rich's farm—hundreds
visit there daily—Some men in Boston
have bought the land & are putting up
large buildings—Is noticed in the
Pavilion perhaps you've seen some
thing of it Sister says she don't perceive
that the water is different from any other
clear spring water
30th I have delay'd sending this till
I received the Bundle which I has
just brought home I have just cut to
strip a few of the shirts, & I assure
you but exacting will have as much
[illegible] my much obliged for them
Sympath, & much love to Father & all the
folks shall feel [illegible]

Mother Barnard

Sept. 21 1836

Dunbarton

I thank you my dear good boy for your good long letter to me & the Eleventh & 16th & part of the 19th O that I could in any thing be a comfort to you my dear child sorely afflicted indeed you are poor Nattie but let me remind you to be thankful that you are spared to her ——— from my own experience I can feel that the loss of all her dear children would be a heavier loss that ——— I shall feel my sorrows if I hear that she is recovered I have many fears for your Mother Putnam she is so feeble

Find those dear beautiful things I feel deeply my own loss & feel it doubly in feeling it for you dear ——— I will let it serve to lessen the load that I am apt to Earth & fix our thoughts more entirely on that dear home where all tears are wiped away & the wicked shall no more vex I am sick

I can hardly write more than you such sad all I can tell ——— Have you Stairs Transport

I have been planning about Percies winter clothes but have done nothing as yet he wears his little baby dresses under his aprons but they are getting to be not warm enough I shall have time enough to look for him now the Dear little darling is taken from me I did look for a great deal of comfort & satisfaction in taking care of it but it has gone to its mother & doubtless is ten thousand times better off than it could be in this world of sin & sorrow

I am expecting to go to Mile with Percie & stay a few weeks probably in a week or 10 days — Sarah & Lizzie stay at Elmira the while I shall hear from you often which there

much love to all the folks from

your ever loving mother

Wilo Oct 20th 1856

My Dear Children

I thank you very much for Nettie's good letter of Oct 9th what warm weather we have had almost all this month — I have been helping Allen wash today. 'tis more than I have done at that business in all the time that I have been gone from here I find my strength is very much less than it was last summer I have grown <u>older</u> but my health is very good for a person of my age I think I have been here 2 weeks today begun to feel quite at home again — I always feel a little discontented & uneasy a few days when I first come home after being gone for some time — Percie is just as happy & contented as a child could be ever since he has been here he & Mary agree very well Mary is now a very smart & good little girl & the Children very often speak of Maggie Dear little Maggie how much I did love him — Hardly an hour in the day but she has been in my thoughts since I have been here — But let us rejoice that he and the

their dear ones that have gone and dare in
our Fathers house in the blessful presence
of Him that died that we might live

I hope the dear little Soldier will soon have his
teeth through & be well I should think that change
of air and more yet change of scene would benefit
your health — James is here yet is very steady and
attentive to his business he has not been home
since last April. The little boys have improved
in their behavior I think. Charlie has raised by
his own labor 2 bushels of potatoes about one bushel of
Beans & some carrots &c. He proposes to devote
a part of his revenue to benevolent purposes
is going to buy some little Books for distribution
& feels the importance of his transactions conscientiously
he gives Joseph a share of his profits tho' he says he
is so lazy that he don't help him hoe but little
Josie is a smart strong boy to work when he has a
mind to — Albina's health seems quite as good as
it was last Summer (natural blushing She is 8 months older)
She has done all her housework except, that Mrs Eaton
help'd her wash a few weeks in the summer

I feel sorry for Mary She is a neal good affectionable little Girl — but She gets scolded so much & for what She can handily help doing — She teases her Mother awful about to let her be a boy yesterday She got on a hat & one of the boys old jackets & so me call'd her Jahns her Mother sent to the door a while after & found She had an axe chopping away on a Stick of wood & call'd to her to come away She said my name is'nt Mary I'm Jahns, can't I chop if I'm Jahns

I have delay'd sending my letter to the P O by one Mail hoping to get a letter from Isaac before sending it —— Have been cutting out Jackets for Charlie & Josie aunt of Charlies wedding Coat got them both out neatly after some contriving with Albina to help there is work enough here to do Albina has a lot of sewing to do I see a chance to send to the P O this minute So good bye

with much love to you all

Mattie

My very dear Isaac & Nellie

I intended to write to you before I left Milo but delays & neglects are not very uncommon things with me. I had a fine visit there grew well & strong on Albina's Dunkin bread it is I really believe very healthy I never before saw a child grow so smart & plump as Percie did while he was there in my life you know how weak his bowels have always been ever since he was so sick

I left Percie at Milo & for some days after he could never allow him to eat much else but bread — Albina had a fine parcel of dried Raspberry leaves & I gave it tea made of it 2 or 3 meals constantly & sometimes 1 or 2 spoons full of it very strong in a cup of milk & sweetened a little she loved it took it with his meals & at other times & soon got so that he could eat any thing that any of the children ate but is prepared before anything else the brown bread made of Albina's dunkin meal & he has grown very fat & large since

[illegible]

James is with Charles yet he had not been home since March till I went there. He has the reputation of being a very good steady young man. He has made up his mind to be a farmer is intending to work out & get money enough as soon as he can & go out west & buy him a farm & have a home for his Mother if she should wish it — Mr. Rider is much more comfortable than I expected to see him — he says he does not suffer much pain not so much as he did months ago — tho' his Cancer is fast progressing it has affected the bone so that about the middle of the jaw on the left side it is seperated & his chin, I can lay 3/4 of an inch it troubled him to talk at first but is better now enough now It has also ate clear through to his mouth just below his ear. Almeda has to dress it 3 times a day the smell is very offensive — She sleeps in the little middle bedroom — I enjoyed my visit there better far than I expected he was very sociable & they both seem'd happy & contented. Lizzie went home last monday. I concluded that Maria had rather not have her there this winter Almeda would rather she should be away from home if she could be at a good school She

quite a good scholar in Grammar & Arithmetic
Probably a good school would do her more good a
year or 2 hence than now

Charles still talks about selling his farm &
going west — I am sure he is a very good one is in just
such a place that he has had no opportunity to sell
& I doubt if he ever will He talks that he shall get
what he can off of it 2 or 3 years & then leave it if
he can find a good place somewhere else

Edwin took his Grey horse to use a while & then sold
he has now sold it for $162½. And has bought a
little Creature (named Tot) for about 60, which
they extol very much. Maria is very well xxxxx
but I dont believe Hattie will go away unless it is
for a short time — They have got everything nicely
all as different as may be from what it was
arranged here to suit them I am very glad to have
them here of Sam'l must break up this home but
O what a change I did feel very sad a while — to see
all her things away & the keen apprehension that
Sam'l & D. will go away I so love Sam'l as an
own son & should feel worse perhaps about his go
ing off — Much of the feeling that when gone they

Mother Bangor Nov. 20 1865

Elgie would be quite gone — but perhaps he will not go far away & take Pessie with him I think he will go to Minnesota next spring or summer but I have a fancy that he will not like there enough to go there to live I am sorry I was not here when he Packed his things to send away I fear he sent some things that you would rather not have — Thanks to pray even the transportation — I had not heard a word said about the pieces of the Articles he sent

He occupies the new Chamber over the kitchen it is a very pretty chamber & nicely furnish'd it has the Secretary that is in the sitting room — The Bureau that was in Lizzys bedroom the Clock, Sink Washstand in the parlor Chamber it is a large Bed with Pillows & 4 large drawers a little stove, &c. is in it on the South Side

The beautiful Doves that Lucy thought so much of are all gone away I cant think why unless it was that the noise of the Carpenters frightened them away you know they had sent from Boston last spring & they had one left of the others — but they are all gone

I suppose S. & E are somewhat troubled about paying a large Note in Boston about this time but they dont say much about it & so we dont ask them questions They will get it done with it somehow as they have done before

Mother Metcalf
Bangor Dec. 1866
Elyria —

Mother

Bangor Jan 8th 1857

Jan. 8 57

My Dear Son,

We rec'd letter from you last night — which as usual glader'd our hearts

I did indeed get reliev'd when I was sick wonderfully quick — Dr. Paine came here 3 or 4 times & Emer 4 times to him for Medicine &c. between Sunday morning & Tuesday night — I don't know but I should have got better if I'd had no other Dr. but I think not as soon — They did not feel satisfied & got Dr. W. Tuesday Wednesday & Thursday I was much relieved notwithstanding both the Drs thought as I'm told since that I could live but a short time probably my being so ill was the reason of that Opinion

Tho' it was so short a time it took away my Strength & flesh — I have a theory one of rather you know, perhaps you will call it pride to take care of myself i.e. not to trouble other people not to be waited upon which comes on so long even before I'm aware of it — But I probably got along all the better for it

I went down Stairs or rather Emer carried me just

two weeks from the time Tim was taken sick (thro not again for some days) and I sat up most all day every day — and have been gaining my strength constantly — am as well now as before I was sick except that my cough is not quite gone I have had a cough and pains, or rather soreness, in my side — not bad sensation'd the Dr. said by adhesions of the lungs he said it would never away & it does

from the time I began to get better
I had too a strange sensation, I don't know as I can describe it — Spasmodic or like hiccough or like catching the breath with a very sharp pain in my right side & shoulder — gone again in an instant almost but occurring at first every 5 minutes then at longer intervals till it has about ceas'd

It is wonderful that I am now so well — Lyon and Anna & Nettie with about my going to Elgin — when Sam'l goes which he expects will be in April

But I suppose it is on account of next I shall then if I live be twenty years old — old enough to settle down at home for the rest of the time besides

Allen expects to be sick in April) Almeda is in much affliction. Mr. Rider suffers I suppose very much It is difficult now for him to walk at

all hurts him very much to swallow his food or talk probably cannot live long — & it will would be even matter of rejoicing when he is releas'd & permitted to enter into the joy of his Lord to be where he is, and to behold his glory — I had a good long Letter from Charles & Albina they were all very well — Sent us 2 prs of nice fat Chickens & Lucia was a very hard disagreeable lot now besides great labor & care the very offensive odor in which she must live constantly She is almost sick I fear it will wear her all out — James is boarding at Charles Everetts & attending School at the village I've had two Letters from him lately he is making his Calculations now to earn all the money as fast as he can till he gets enough to buy him a farm somewhere out West & make a home for his Mother & Lizzie — has given up the idea of learning a trade — I had a Letter from your uncle Peletiah not long since he wrote that your Cousin Sam'l Metcalf is in Illinois (a land speculator) Josiah had just returned from a 3 years whaling voyage. Marcia Stevens wrote me a few weeks ago that Sisters Conant & Esther were well She saw Sister Conant at the

funeral of Esq. Russell he died instantly in
his Chair ——— Percie is all the time at my
elbow — don't make my writing look much better
tho' he is a great fat boy — but I fear his mind rather
cramp'd now a days for us are, tho' very kind and
pleasant & all that so sort of particulars that he
can have nothing to do — at he may do any kind of play thing,
litter up the room & if he has any thing to by us
apt to want it, we must learn him to be kind & accom-
modating we has had a Cold & the Croup, Hig with
is constantly in this tight room with double win-
dows & Coal fire — He sews a little draws the Chairs
about is thought to be rather roguish sometimes
I've had some trouble to make him mind since
I've got well more than I had before just he is on the
whole a very good boy — would have him go in doors
if he had any body to play with but he don't like to
go out alone — Sam'l talks now that he shall take
him right on to Miss with him in the Spring
I don't love to think of it ——— Little Erving stands
alone gets up & walks round by the side of the
house — is a treasure to the fellows — S. & E. are collecting
debts S. said if they could all it would pay all their debts
& have their stock of goods & 4000$ left that their nominal
profits on 3 years had been 14,000, — but I think E. is at
the time perplext and their pushed on by Bank fail-
ing &c I think I've got my paper filled
good bye, I am yours Lovingly Mother

Bangor Jan 1st 1817

My dear mother

I wrote a letter to Sarah
last week directed to Bangor but not
receiving any answer I am afraid
she is sick ——— My health is pretty
good but I have not been well since
I came home sick ——— I have some cough and
soreness in my side but it is now getting
better and I am hopeful as
feeling as before ——— Since my coming
from the time I began to get better I can
hardly describe it ——— It was like receiving
a new birth or as I do Christ
should say if anything should ever take hold
of the ends of my breath attended with very
sharp pains & running at the nose every few seconds
then & longer & longer intervals & often
only a few times a day.

E. had a letter from Isaac last night the boys proposal to sell his right of mining & Coal Land Leases and an offer of a ~~good~~ situation there at a salary 1500, as a year all which he will not accept which he ought to, & probably can do. He is Much to ~~be~~ pitied. It seems a matter of doubt whether they can ever get any wealth there that I guess he will not stay there.

Sam'l is now gone to Wisconsin. We expect him home today if he comes I will write you. He may from there — He & Eliab have made a trade E. has bought his situation here all his interest in the Store &c. Poor Sam'l how unfortunate he has been But he is a Man what is a Man as the boys say and will do well yet — indeed he has always done well

I have some fears for E. it is a great undertaking for him to carry on a business involving nearly a hundred thousand a year he says even if he can succeed in paying up his debts — He says they have 40000 more due to them than they owe but a considerable part of it they probably will never get

It makes me think of Lucy (in many things do) when M. first came up here (She was expecting a M to be Born every [illegible], I shall do this, & I shall do that)
Ignes[illegible] & is sincerely, lovingly kind & attentive to me in every thing he ought to be to me & more too — Marian & Hattie are just as faithful, as kind and attentive as they can be every thing just right

I thinks of taking S. P. right along to Minnesota in the Spring it makes me sad — He needs tenderer affectionate care which he would probably have but he needs also discipline — He is not a very Stubborn child but so full of Roguery it is difficult to make him mind exactly and quick but is on the whole a very good boy

Sam'l has just returned from Mich[illegible] where 3 nights they were all well at M. & at Brownville except Mr. Rider he suffers exceedingly can take no food but liquid & that with great difficulty, said one day it did he thought never long to continue again if it was not daily [illegible] very much swallow [illegible] to [illegible] him a great deal. This is a fearful [illegible] either I am a changed if I don't get my [illegible] to [illegible]

Mother Bangor Feb. 14 1857

Du Quoin Mar 5

Bangor Feb

My Dear Son Isaac

I had a good letter from you a few days since & have days came prior to Eliab. I rejoice that your Town is progressing so finely. It seems strange to be quite an oasis in that tract of country. If you have confidence in Mary Ellen & that it is quite certain that he would be forgiving them for Sam'l says if he were in Charles place he should leave Milo he thinks he could do better than to remain there — Mother says perhaps he shall coax him off to Minnesota — but it will be hard work for him to move anywhere because Albina has so little energy & perhaps that it

I don't see how he can get along there it seems that he is running behind now every year — & as you say a great part of the money he brought from Ct. his ability or strength for labor is on the wane & his family more expensive. I can't speak positively about it to have him stay or go — Sam'l seems very much disposed to have him but I seem to be by to persuade him to leave — with me — with us

I began this several days ago but Nealy has been very sick so I did not finish it He took a very bad cold & it settled on his lungs (is teething besides) his breathing was dreadful but the Dr. called it congestion or lung fever — After much demur & some hard speeches by Hattie because E. did not send for Dr. Payne. The child growing worse. in spite of Elias's application of cold bandages to his neck & all else that we could do E. started off & got Dr. McTimer — He told us take a thick woolen blanket wring it out of hot water and wrap the child in it — we changed it once & kept him in it 4 hours it soothed & relieved him very soon — He was taken last saturday night 7th is now Saturday 14th pretty well again, but quite feeble So nervous & uneasy & gets tired so quick that Hattie has a hard time as well as the rest — Hattie has taken the babe all its days ever since it was 3 or 4 months old it has not slept with its Mother at all It is so ingenious all naughty tightly it makes the child so to but he means it all right is very kind and good to E & Marion must be made to obey & be gotten to her

14th Feb 1857

Baby being sick & Marie daily expecting it's E. sent a "telagram" to Mary Ely at Hartford. She arrid here last evening — I think Sam'l Ely will come in the Spring & this will be the home for them all & a very good home it will be.

E will fix up & ornament the grounds & make it beautiful — It makes me think of dear Lucy & all her planning & hopefulness but I must not — That she should be here & the thing impossible — I have some fears for Eliab alone in a climate making a hundred thousand a year & I'm afraid he'll still need Sam'l for at least a part to lean upon.

If he can succeed in clearing away all his difficulties paying all yours & every thing it will be almost wonderful won't it?

Sam'l came back from N. H. &c last monday has been gone about 3 weeks visiting his cousins & second Cousins. He is now & will probably be for a month to come occupied as Jury man — in a good time for him as

he had nothing to do E has very little
to do keeps Wm Martin & Chapman
in the Store doing nothing for the
sake of having them the rest of the year
when he does want 'em

H. W. Beecher lectured here to a crowded
house last evening & heard him thoroughly
evening he is certainly an orator for
Norwich Hall was crowded full &
there was the most respect stillness
his subject the Christian commonwealth
Peace is very well & grows
very fast he will not stay out doors
as he has no one to be with him and
is rather troublesome (i.e. his noise) in
the house while Erving is sick

Ethel received a letter from you
today "good boy well done" for writing so
frequently — do not envy us writing
it is growing cold & I can see what I am
writing must quit or get a lamp

God bless you & keep you in all your
ways

Mother Bangor Me

Febr 26th 1864

Bangor Feb 26

My [illegible]

I feel like writing a little [illegible]

tho' I [illegible] ing particularly interesting to write — we are all very well now — We have had remarkably mild weather since about the 23 — 24th of Jan. the very cold spell when the mercury in our thermometer was frozen & it was said down town that it was down to 24 — The winter has all been mild with the exception of 2 or 3 very cold spells & those were short — we have rain & very soft weather Sleighing about all gone about the 18th warm enough to set without a fire from 60 to 66 above I stay at home mostly do nothing but knit & read & not much of that for it makes my head ache to read much. The Independent takes considerable time — I have lately read again The Kiss & Progress — Have now been reading "Foot prints of the Creator" & incredible as it may seem I really enjoyed it — tho of course I could not understand it all — So many Greek & Latin terms — I rec'd your letter of the 15th on the 24th

I have written one letter since you left and you
write you are waiting ——. You say about my going
to Elyria —— I should love to go but would it be
right —— I have been saying lately that Sam't will
leave Persis with me at Milo this coming summer
—— If he will consent to that & then I could go
to Elyria & take him with me in the fall i.e.
if I am alive & well it would just suit me —— &
Eliab says he will go with me in the fall —— but
Sam't says he knows he want —— & it seems to me
that he can't

March 1st 1857 Seventy years —— I have seen my
years —— Seventy years I have been the constant recipi-
ent of innumerable blessings! —— & what have
I rendered —— what? but sin & folly O the love
of God —— the unspeakable riches of his mercy
his long suffering & tender mercy —— Praise Praise
Eternal glory To his Name

3d I thought to have finished this before now
but I waited supposing that I could inform you
of the coming of another little responsibility by
this time Eliab has been waiting & dare not go (as
he wants to do very much) to Boston

I had a letter from Alameda 19th Feb. Mr. Rider was failing very fast or rather he was suffering very much — I suppose has suffered ten times more with hunger than a person would in starving to death It is very trying for him, he lived about two weeks on only sweetened water, but when she wrote could take very thin Chicken broth — O it must be very dreadful for Alameda The smell is so very offensive it seems to me it would be more than I could bear

Sam'l is making boxes to pack his goods in is intending to carry his two bureaus & his large Secretary a Table, 3 feather beds, lot of bedding &c &c.

I suppose he has not fully decided the matter but I think he will conclude to leave Percie with me at Milo — I feel as if Percie ought to be with me at present — It was Lucy with that I should I would willingly go to Elyria with Sam'l if it were not that I have not been at Charlie's any hardly since I came from there & have seen Alameda but very little in all the last two years — I know that I can really do her no good but I must sympathize with her in her trouble — besides I very much doubt whether Percie or I should be

as healthy at Elyrian as at Milo

I want very much to be kept informed what your cogitations, inclinations, destinations, occupations, & determinations, are — I believe I wrote you that Mary Ely is here — I have written to you pretty often & cant remember what I have written & what I have not — Marcia has a large flower stand with 4 shelves full of plants & Hattie & Mary have just been down to the green house & brought 3 or 4 more beautiful ones in blooms one splendid gilly flower 7 or 8 great stalks full of blossoms — E. & his folks are a very pleasant family — are all flourishing fine & I can see nothing but what E. is likely to get along bravely thro' all his perplexities if he does get all paid up & squared round to suit himself he will hold up his head wont he especially among business men

I fear I have written more nonsense than you can well afford time to read

May God be with you & keep you & bless you in all your ways

your loving Mother

Mother Bangor
May 4. 67

Bangor May 4th/67

My Dear Son

I received your good letter
written when I can't write & I am yet
feeling somewhat discouraged that
I cannot get to Ohio before now. The
Doctor insists about a fortnight caution
there is much ill will to pay at the
Bridges & crossings on the Piscataquis
The Pleasant-like Dover Streams and
Boston brook bridges — we have had
a great deal of rain so that the
Streams are high & the travelling
bad yet — I expect to go there in few
days now — I shall want to get all
Settled there before the time will come
when I should like to go to England if I
could have a good chance — There are so many inconveniences about living just 4 or 5 five
months in a place it takes so much
time to get just right again — & to get
settled again makes the time unprofitably
gets gone at last

you coming here. I want you to Elmira
on your way. I want to be there
enough — But should have a short time
to stay at Wilo & Brownville — however
I dont know as it would be expedient
or safe to go from here there on the hottest
season — But if I go at all I must go
when I can — You speak of coming
here have you any business that will
call you this way — If you have I should
delight to go back with you — But I
shall hear from Sam'l soon & will let
you know what he says about his
Father's coming — Tho' Eliab says that
I shall not go with Maj. further & then
he will go with me next fall — but
I dont believe he can till December
Marie is very well and smart is now
gone down to Main St. on foot a shopping
Sam'l told you perhaps about Eliab's
quick horse & how we got thrown from
the wagon his wrist is very weak yet. — One
night last week he left him just for a
few minutes — & he run & rid himself
of the wagon except the fore wheels and

was gone ~~seven~~ 2 hours before Eliab found him — The creature is just as quiet as a cat — But E. insists that he is perfectly kind — They have not named the baby yet. Charles has got a little daughter born 21st of April

Almeda has bought Mill's part of the farm for $600, & he is expecting to go west — is hoping to get a chance to work with you — Mills has the western fever the worst kind — I fear he will be greatly disappointed Almeda's calculations are with a view to Farnes's home pit — means to get all she can from the place & then to sell it or lease it & go west — But a great deal seems to depend, with them all, upon whether you get located advantageously & even Eliab says he thinks he shall not stay in Bangor more than a few years — Charles has been unfortunate with his sheep some disease among them all sick & dying — Almeda has lost one of her cows that she depended on for profit this summer — E. has hired George Hodgkins for the summer at 12,00 per month

There seems to be a more than usual interest in the subject of religion in this City we have known of but few cases of conversion in the Central society but more in the Tremont Baptists — Meetings in the Central Church 4 or 5 evenings in the week this & or 10 week past

How I do miss Samuel, from the singing (prayer & everywhere — I have felt rather uneasy — no not uneasy exactly — at the thought of being here since he is gone, there seems not the same reason for staying here besides Maria has her two sisters & a strong Girl She dont need for Mary or help — and it would be better for Percie now his father is away

I have an opportunity to send this & will not stop to finish it now

yours &c

Another Letter
Bangor March 1st 1846
(Elyria Ohio)

Bangor

My Dear Son

The thing seems now to be settled in my mind that Percie & I spend the Summer at Milo — Anna wrote very earnestly for me to go to Elyria with Samuel but I have not been able to really think it best — not that I should not enjoy it very much indeed — & I really can't think of such a thing as your going away from there before I do — The question has been whether I could have any good opportunity to go in the fall but I can't. Has thought of going — His father & wife are coming east to spend the Summer or part of it, & S. says I can go when they go back — & so I can if I live & have my health — but I had far by times rather have you & Eliot for company — E. says he will go with me soon as the river clears but Sam'l I say he don't believe he will or can Hattie invented a new way to tie the baby's handsome silver apple to his and Eliot

14.

14. Mr. Fisher died last Friday 5th 10th was buried Thursday he has suffered a great deal but died very easy at the last Sam'l & Eliab went up to the Funeral I have written three letters to you within a month & am daily expecting one from you I should enjoy some pecuniary privileges at Elyria where I had some comforts that I cannot expect at Wilds — & indeed I expect many little annoyances [there But I think it will be better for Perez to be there with the children He has not the go ahead activeness that Marjo had is lazy & hangs round me all the time when his father is not about — he loves to be with him when he is here 16 — 5th Thus far I had written & then concluded to lay it by till I received one from you & now half fin. it mine P. 4th I have just read yours of March 11th & now what shall I say to you? I want to be with you & yours & Anna

at Elgin & how much — But I have thought first I ought to be at Milo — Not an unreasonable to think because of any help I could be by way of Labor for I don't expect to do much any where — & I am aware that it would make it harder for Albina. I think it would be better for Fescie

I wish I could feel fully decided about it I think I should feel easier — I had got the matter quite settled in my mind but Anna's and your urgent entreaties rather disturbs the pendulle a little

Things doubtfull are uncertain & it is uncertain whether P. would be as well there in hot weather I think he has not entirely got over the weakness of bowels occasioned by his sickness, or else fails to govern himself as he might (makes a great deal of washing of Pants,) He improves in health & strength very much while at Milo & has I should not been more healthy during the winter than he would have been if he had not gone there

I expect Almeda here by stage
tomorrow & will lay my letter
aside again till after she comes & I
get her opinion

Please write me immediately on re-
ceiving this & inform me when it is
probable you shall have to leave home
if you obtain the situation you men-
tioned — Almeda came last night but
I know no more what to say to you or by that
she is directed in the opinion that I ought
not to go away this Spring — If I could any
way possibly think it best to go to Elgin this
Spring I could hardly have time enough to get
ready — should want to go to Milo first — & he is go-
ing in a fortnight — has nothing more to
do but finish his goods.

Albina has a girl engaged for 2 or 3
months — I feel as if it must be very doubt-
ful if I go to Elgin whether I should ever
return especially if E should never go west & James
should go west & consequently Almeda should go
to — & could I go & not go to Milo & perhaps
not see the children & folks perhaps for years
if ever — Please write every thing & plain & about
every thing & say if you can that you think it best that I
stay till May further yours — only I should dread to
stay with him. God bless you all my children & do
be with you — if I could only be with you
to be with you — if I could only be with you
at once your Mother

Mother

May. 15 '58

Bangor May 15th /58

Dear Folks

We arrived here at 5 to P.M. this morning by the "Daniel Webster, from Portland by R.R. from Boston there — We stopt at the "United States" Thursday night I took dinner with Mrs Child — Samuel went out to New Ton

I want to know whether Percie has been a real good — & whether he performs his promise every day — am thinking to get him an outside garment — have seen some that I like'd made of light cloth, like that you've got for your Cloak Anna & cut just like Gentlemans loose overcoats like that Mr. Jenkins wears they look very well — but I forgot to take his measure as I intended. I suspect I left a nice lace veil that was Lucy's I have no recollection of seeing when I put up my things — I have not unpack'd yet

Tis best perhaps to let Percie wear his old pants as much as well do — & not take them away — His Grandmother Tucker is very smart & fond of display in dress or of making pretensions I guess her ways is that do not just suit Samuel he say she is close enough where only comfort is in question — But I suppose they are rich enough to do as they please

I want to cautions you a little about letting little Charlie sit to much he does not use his feet enough I took a little Child 4 months old that seemd to jump & use it limbs stand stronger than Charlie But there is no hurry about it if there is not danger of fickets or some weakness consequent upon his being so still

Irving is quite sick had a fit this morning they thought he ate something that hurt him has a high fever now but will we hope feel much better in the morning poor little fellow he is all mind all

brain & no body — a little bit of a fellow — little Lucy is thin & small compar'd with Charlie

Sam'l thinks he shall go to Utica and Brownville part part of next week

Hattie Ely has return'd here and Mary is expecting to go to Binghamton in a week or two or as soon as she can have company

I hope Percie is a brave good boy & will wash & dress & take care of himself & not trouble others to any thing for him that he can do for himself

My head aches some & I feel some tired but not more I expected I should

Sam'l was very kind & attentive & polite as he knows how to be

Sam'l you know was going to surprise the people here — But they knew all about his plans long ago & they were expecting us this very day Elizabeth was on the Board at once had told of me before I had time to think

The trees, the face of the earth
in general does look dreary.
here compar'd with your place.
it is a fact — the trees look naked
yet & the grass browns — but the
folks & the houses are all right
I feel too stupid to say any thing
more to night only pray for me
that I may have constantly a present
Savior an abiding sense of his
tenderness, his love, & Mercy
much love to you all good night
from your Mother

Mother

May 18 58

Bangor May 18

My dear Son Isaac

The Spring is backward it looks cold & dreary here the ground was frozen considerably yesterday notwithstanding we had on the table some very nice Radishes of Elisabeth's raising (in a hot bed tho')

Mary & I have been to the Prayer Meeting this morning Elisabeth's family have not been much for a week or two since the Children have been sick — Lucy is considerably better but still so as to be in arms all the time — Dear little Irving is quite sick yet does not set up at all except in the lap — He is so little it seems to me not near as big as Charlie — takes but very little food — when he is well but drinks much milk I don't think he will live many years there is nothing of him — But he knows

so much & talk so abd I wish you could see him

I wrote to you Sat. telling you as how we got here that morning came from Portland in the Daniel Webster

A Mr. Rich who was in the same carriage I rode up in when E. help'd me in enquir'd if that was my son then began to enquire about you said he was in the Bangor high School with you & I think he said in College two ——— I ask'd Sam'l this morning about our expenses on the way he look'd over & said my part was 22 dollars I turn'd right to Eliab & ask'd him if he could lend me some money he ask'd me how much I wanted I told him 15, as I wanted to do for I had some I did'nt tell Sam'l how much — I did'nt know but I would prefer to pay fare in consideration of ——— But we must excuse him — he was brought up so

he never knew except what Lucy taught him by her example any other way but to take & keep whatever was his — you know how good & kind he unvariably was to Lucy & his thought probably is that it is my duty & pleasure our duty & pleasure to do everything for Percy the same as it is his — he seems very kind, attentive & loving to me — & probably looks upon it as confering a favor in letting me have Percy so long & so it is for it was according to my wish & desire to have him with me at whatever sacrifice of self it might — It was Lucy's earnest and dying request

We are all ennuites to Mr. Kimballs tomorrow morning at 8 o'clock to see Sam'l Married when he & his wife will start right off to visit at Milo and Bonneville — People here think he will have a very good wife & that Eliab in his queer way says he knows nothing against her only she has too many friends — Anna was speaking of her as being of good family she is acquainted with Mrs. Kiss but calls her Aunt — another Aunt but Mrs. Theodore Brown is a scandalous or bad woman tis said — Eliza has three Brothers one of whom the youngest I believe got in to some mischief here in B. & she had to sell a lot of land deeded Matty gave her to keep him from prison one of her Brothers lives in Woodgewalk — please not let the Children get hold of this letter but read it & tell your opinion of it to Dr & Anna from your loving Sister Ellen I think I shall go to Milo next probably in a week or two

Miller
May 23d/58

Bangor May 23d 58

My Dear Children

I have written to you once I dont know but twice since I came Bangor here — My head is so confus'd that I cannot tell whether I have given you an account of the wedding which was Wednesday (19) morning at 8 o clock & the Groom & Bride started right off to Milo & Brownville & returned Friday night — They spent last evening here — They expect to go to visit their Brothers Tuesday Wed. & Thursday and calculate to start for home Monday 31st a week from tomorrow probably be at your house Sat. 5th of June Perhaps sooner

I long to know just how Percie has carried himself since I came away I am a little sad now a days I can spare I can't but this like leaving my heart out to give Percie up to them

Still I know it is all best — best for him & best for me — I have tried to do, to the best of my ability what Lucy so often & so earnestly requested me to do — & this tho' I have doubtless failed often of doing right is my compensation — none but a parent could know the tears I've shed & how I've felt — May God accept my endeavors & follow the dear boy with his blessing — I feel thankful to God that I could have him with me so long — And his Father I guess looks upon it as conferring a favor — Still I know it has been trial — vexation, & expense to Anna & you & tho' you may say no — it is impossible a child of his age could leave any family without & I feel as if it would be a happiness to me if I could make compensation But impotency is my inheritance and that which is not [naught] cannot be remembered

Tis the Methodist Conference
Meeting here now — All the Pulpits
here & in Brewer I believe were fill-
ed by Methodist Ministers to day
Professors Shepard & Hanna gone
to Boston to the Meetings — I have
been but one morning & two evening
Meetings — Some of the family did
go pretty constantly before I came
but both the Children have been
sick — Lucy is considerably bet-
ter & Irving is gaining some but
is very nervous & irritable — They
have to hold him in their laps
all day long — have not been able
to get him down on to the bed even
when asleep in the day time
Hattie & Mary are both here now
Mary is going away to Binghamp-
ton next week in company with S.
& his wife — It looks cold & dreary
here for the season but it has
changed considerably in a
week & another week of warm

will make a very great change
Elcab has a flat bed but he
has not sow'd any thing on
his garden yet — He has had
hard getting along through
the "Crisis" he says as the
business turn'd about he gave
Sam'l some 4000$ right out —
I guess he has got his business
in pretty good shape now but
it will take him considerable
time to get his debts all paid

My expenses on the journey
nine twenty two (22) dollars
I paid it to Sam'l yesterday
His wife was dress'd very fine
ly today richly & properly the
wedding was in very good
Style I never saw her dance except
a few minutes there, I was not plum'd
with Ness at all — She is very
well spoken of as far as I have
heard — May God bless you & keep
you in the way — do write to me about
pierce, the meetings, & all the folks,

A. M. Metcalf

Mother Brownville
July 30 1858

Marion [illegible] is [illegible] it is not at all probable that she & Eliab will go to Illinois next fall

[illegible] my dear son [illegible] I would [illegible] that I am going to [illegible] [illegible] now is it best — ought I to go [illegible] if I live to [illegible] [illegible] I [illegible] & [illegible] & prefer to tell & know whether I ought to go

If I go it had probably better be [illegible] next fall It would not [illegible] for me to be journeying much both on account of my age & the expense also. If I go there it is not to be expected that I should live to return here again & how could I leave all the [illegible] ones here never to see them again —— But it is not of much consequence where I am [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Mother Bangor

Nov. 18 1858

Bangor Nov 18th 1858

My Dear Son Isaac — Charles & I came here yesterday in the Chaise very comfortably tho' the weather is very cold we had a little snow, 2 inches perhaps, on the 4th of this month & very cold weather ever since the ground frozen very hard it has it has thawed almost none at all. ever in the middle of the day since

I had a good letter from Anna written the same day that I wrote my last to her I received yours day before yesterday

In regard to Charles He would be well pleas'd to go his Father & Mother would be willing his Father would be glad because it would be thinks be great benefit to him — but there seems to be no opportunity — Ethel & his wife intend to start there journey about the first week in Dec. And expect to visit

along at Hartford Easthampton Amherst
N. Y. Binghamton & will probably
not be at Elysian before the 20 or later
perhaps as the last of the month

I am sorry Charlie cannot go but
perhaps it will be all best for him
to go when I do if you want him I
want Anna & the Dr. to think over
the plan about coming here and
with me as soon as convenient

they are fashionable genteel and tasty
as dissimilar to the farm home as the
antipodes but I can manage to en
joy it pretty well & "among the Ro-
mans to do as the Romans do

But I think if I live a few years
longer I shall give up "packing up
my duds to move so often

your Brother George is expected
to take dinner with us thanksgiving
day I have not seen him he has
call'd here twice & they like him
very much they say

Elias's fine Vessel launch'd yesterday morning nam'd Mallie Metcalf loaded with ice for Havanna the owners $18 a freight money this trip — The little ones seem to be very well now (you would'nt think they could remain so with their low necks & short sleeves) Lucy eats quite hearty by but Tommy not at all as I can see — but he drinks a good deal of milk

I am really sorry Charlie cant go, their school is just clos'd & a rather poor school it was & they are to have no more till next Summer he really would be very useful to you he is so willing to work & is so honest & faithful & after all he is very dull about any book learning it seems as if he dont know enough to deceive if he wanted to — but he will always find out the easiest and the quickest way of doing any work

Almeda talks of buying Charles's sed house & it will be a fine one for her

it is so kind & so strong we came down
in 5 1/2 hours in this hard travelling and
the creature has been plowing all the
fall — Charles has got his fall work
pretty well done I guess except his
new ground which remains till next
summer he has 2 great stout men get-
ting out cedar for fencing Winter he
shall try to build a Barn next summer
please write often & tell Nellie & Annie
to likewise

to your ever loving Mother

kiss the little boys for me
& trains them up in the way they
should go

Mother Bangor
Dec. 1858

Bangor Dec.

Dear Nettie

I have not had any of your handwriting my this long while — now it cannot be that you think yourself neglected because I have not addressed my letters to you in particular — For what I write to Isaac is just as much to you — you being both one I am anxiously waiting to hear from some of you & dont mean to send this till I do — 15th & no [illegible] our folks yet — Hattie is very much worried with fear and having so sick She expects that Hattie would write from Eastman [illegible] & from Hartford [illegible] — [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

John has just returned from the P. O.
& we have no letters yet — we suppose the
folks [Edna & Marie] get to Binghampton sometime
this week if they are all well — but we have
some fears that some of them are sick

I do not think much of presentiments & fears
& am hardly willing to acknowledge that I had
before they went some misgivings — slight fears
however fully I suppose because they seemed to be
so many prosperous hopeful & happy — I feared
that their minds were a little too much absorbed
too much drawn away from the straight & narrow
way ——— But probably you'll see them all
well & happy sometime next week

I want very much to hear from you all
do please write soon all of you

to your loving Mother

Bangor Dec 26 1858

Mother In

Elgrica

Aug. 2, 59
760

Dear Mattie

I received your letter
& mother was so much hoped they might
better soon — Do not feel anxious
about me at home at all — we are all
getting along
getting along. The girls were home
to do work but you know Lillian goes
sometimes a little out for days just
after you went away it was very hot
weather & my anxiety about baby and
household matters made me a thorough
nervous & restless a few days — But now
get a little rest to it now & me all
think many better & stable

The little boys do nicely — I have them
up with & wash them both & put them
into bed every night & without much
angry or crying once — We visited down to
Iris Friday came home Saturday Pell as
soon as he got into the house he was

grandmother I want my old father & am going to help Father & he can't tell as if he could remove Mountains — this Father had been mowing — when he came to the supper table he said I don't see how I can stop I must rake up that hay — he & Charlie had a fine time one had the garden rake & the others how they made the hay fly

I had written this near a week ago but forget to put it in Isaacs letter Charlie's birth day yesterday & he has a long ride with his Father He stays at the Inn's this week says he is not coming home till saturday night. We are sitting considering we are two young Girls & a superannuated boy 73 years old a long way — the Girls do well — baby's teeth is not quite thro' she is much as she was when you went away we do try to be very careful of her — we have put up 3 cans of blackberries think we shall not do any more till you get home. Hope you will get strong & well very fast indeed don't think too much about home but enjoy yourself

n.d.

Bangor March

My Dear Nettie

Will you please accept the enclosed Collar as it is but a small affair but I thought it might please you merely becaus' I work'd it after I am 72 years old if it is too small you can nip off the bindary & do it over it is full'd a little to much in to the binding

We are all in usual health — I am expecting to go to Milo tomorrow (Tuesday) Eliab is going up with me he has business up that way

Your brother George, as I suppose you know, has gone home. he seem'd quite unwell when he last call'd here I am afraid he is making haste to much — I dont mean exactly that he makes haste to be rich — But I guess he preaches too much

Hattie is having a fine time seems to enjoy herself here very much it is amusing to see how observant she is of some things she already knows the names and faces of more young men in this place than some would in seven years with the same opportunity's & manners & Gals. too

But it is not so easy for her to think — to learn & to know what she has learn'd — I guess she is very apt to forget what she has learn'd — she & all of us are thinking now to have her try to get in to the high school — I very much fear that she cannot pass a negative examination for some things required she has not attended to — Eliab thinks it may be that he can get her in from having Lawyer Humphrey who is one of the committee in his interest or tho' his means somehow

Eliab & Marion are quite interested in Hattie & are trying to help her E. asks her a great many questions in Geography & other things that she cannot answer but calculated to learn her to think as he says — I have had several promises of letters from Annie but they don't come — I don't know as I ought to write so freely about it. my only reason is that ye may all be the better able to advise her & ~~not be disappointed~~

Boston Aug 1st 1835

my Dear little boys I suppose you have been wishing for a letter from me but not more than I have wish'd to hear from you I want to see you all very much there is scarcely an hour passes but I am thinking of you — Do try to be good boys do your duty be kind and love one another — If you have some trials and vexations and if you have to work hard do try with all your might to be cheerful and good natured all the while — Being fretfull and cross you know makes yourselves and every one about you unhappy and does no good at all I want you should tell Charles all your little troubles and difficulty all you feel and think he will give you good advise and will indulge your wants as far as is best this likely — I can hardly enjoy myself since the time I am so much afraid that my dear little Eliab will grow a naughty boy by going to school without any brother or sister with him to give him good advise & no matter at home to ask him all what was done at school or tell him what was right and what was not — but I hope you will all be faithfull to one another and watch over and pray for each other that you may be kept in the paths of wisdom — and O may our almighty father and friend keep you from all evil especially from Sin the greatest of all evil

4th has been very warm weather here 25 July (mayo's birth day) the thermometer stood at 93 in the shade I have felt tolerably well since I've been here but I am not so fleshy nor so strong as I usually am and Lucy has grown poor and pale has had very little appetite is not able to do much beside go to school — Ann has given up her school in Allen street because it was all small scholars and was so fatiguing & her rent so high that she did not gain much She has commenced another school for young ladies at No. 17 Tremont St. price of Tuition from 4 to 10 dollars and has a prospect of doing pretty well by & by — James is all taken up with the anti slavery affairs there is a great deal of excitement upon that subject but I suppose you learn more from the news papers about it than I can tell you There is a great excitement about Papery also I have understood that there are

a large number of Buckmen and others in the City Next are determined to celebrate the Burning of the convent they are preparing an Effigy of the Lady Superior with which they mean to march round the Streets of the city and out to Charlston as near the Convent ground as they can get and then Shoot it and its expected that there will be a riot Well if they should — a Mr. McCalla has been delivering Lectures at Park Street exposing the evils of Popery and Mr. Pepper Editor of the Catholic Sentinel and other Catholics tried to interupt the meeting but could not make out — I intended to have finished this letter and sent it last week but could not — Ahmeda has not been well you know this long time for several days she has been very sick and yesterday the 7th of August had a daughter born a very fine looking child but it is dead — Her health is improving now a and I think of going to the Country in 3 or 4 weeks if she gets along well I want very much Joseph that you should come here and go with me but I dont know as it will be expedient for you to come so soon because of the work at home Charles will have so much to do but you may be thinking about it that will do no harm if you should not come do try to be a good boy Wash yourself neat and clean do wash your face and neck clean as often as twice a day at least all of you I had a while ago considerable thought of having your Isaac come too this winter & go to school at Andover where Caleb is there is a good school and very cheap I suppose I could get a chance there where the whole expence for board and tuition would it be more than a dollar a week but on the whole I do not now think it best the expense of getting there and back would be so much and the little Ebab would be left almost alone but you must certainly go to school somewhere so do try to be a very good boy that Charles may be the better able to spare you — Ahmeda think I had better go to Warwick and stay 2 or 3 months and then come back & spend the Winter here but I have not considered whether I shall go to Mills this fall or not — I have not been to Lowell or Woonsocket or any where else scarcely since I came here what is the reason Isaac that you have not written do set right about it and write me a good long letter — Ahmeda wants Lucy to stay with her 2 years or more

Please return to
J&M Metcalf. Elyria. O.

Boston, August 1, 1835

My Dear Little Boys : (Isaac & Joseph and Eliab)

I suppose you have been wishing for a letter from me but not more than I have wished to hear from you I want to see you all very much There is scarcely an hour passes but I am thinking of you. Do try to be good boys, do your duty, be kind and love one another. If you have some trials and vexations and if you have to work hard do try with all your might to be cheerful and good natured all the while. Being fretful and cross you know makes yourselves and every one about you unhappy, and does no good at all. I want you should tell Charles all your little troubles and difficulties all you feel and think. He will give you good advice and will indulge your wants as far as it is best, t'is likely. I can hardly enjoy myself some of the time I am so much afraid that my dear little Eliab will grow a naughty boy ~~xxxx~~ by going to school without any brother or sister with him to give him good advice, and no mother at home to ask him all what was done at school and tell him what was right and what was not ; but I hope you will all be faithful to one another and watch over and pray for each other that you may be kept in thepath of wisdom and O may our Almighty Father and Friend keep you from all evil especially from <u>sin</u> the greatest of all evil.

It has been very warm weather here. Twenty five July (Mayo's birthday) the thermometer stood at ninety three in the shade. I have felt tolerably well ever since I have been here but I am not so fleshy nor so strong as I am usually, and Lucy has grown poor and pale, has had very little appetite; is not able to do much beside go to school. Ann has given up her school in Allen Street because it was all small scholars and was so fatiguing and her rent so high that she did not gain much. She has commenced another school for young ladies at number 17 Tremont Street. Price of tuition from four to ten dollars, and has the prospect of doing pretty well by and by. James is all taken up with the anti-slavery affairs. There is a great deal of excitement upon that subject, but I suppose you learn more from the news papers about it than I can tell you. There is a great excitement about popery also. I have understood that there are a large number of truck men and others in the city that are determined to celebrate the burning of the convent. They are preparing an effigy of the Lady Superior with which they mean to march around through the streets of the city andout to Charleston as near the convent ground as they can get and then <u>shoot it</u> and t'is expected that there will be an Irish mob if they should. A Mr. McCalla (?) has been delivering lectures at Park Street exposing the evils of popery and Mr. Pepper editor of the Catholic Sentinal andother catholics tried to interrupt the meeting but could not make out.

I intended to have finished this letter and sent it last week, but could not. Almeda has not been well you know this long time. for several days she has been <u>very sick</u> and yesterday 7th of August she had a daughter born a very fine looking child but it was dead. Her health is improving now, and I think of going out into the country in three or four weeks if she gets along well. I want very much Joseph that you should come here and go with me, but I don't know as it will be expedient for you to come so soon because of the work at home. Charles will have so much to do, but you may be thinking about it. That will do no harm if you shouldnot come. Do try to be a good boy, keep yourself neat and clean, do wash your face and neck <u>clean</u> as often as twice a day at least : all of you. I had a while ago considerable thought of having you , Isaac, come too this winter and go to school at Andover where Caleb is. There is a good school and very cheap. I suppose I could get a chance there where the whole e

expense for board and tuition wouldn't be more than a dollar a week, but on the whole I do not now think it best. The expense of getting here and back wouldbe so much and ~~little Libe~~ Eliab would be left almost alone. But you must certainly go to school some where, so do try to be a very good boy that Charles may be the better able to spare you. Almeda thinks I had better go to Warwick and stay two or three months and then come back and spend the winter here but I have not concluded whether I shall go to Milo this fall or not. I have not been to Lowel or Woonsocket or any where else scarcely since I came here.

What is the reason Isaac, that you have not written. Do set right about it and write me a good long letter. Almeda wants Lucy to stay with her two years or more. Provisions are very high here this summer - butter bout 28 ferkin 23 cents.

A.M.Metcalf (Grandmother)

anna Mayo Stevens Rich Metcalf

have just received yours Letter Elizabeth I feel sorry enough distressed about Joseph I have been expecting he would be sick long the boat or tobacco had much better come right home I sent your Pants, Jacket and 2 pr Stockings by the Sewers one last week I suppose you got them same day you wrote to me I could not make the money we owe Mr Neely very coarse Rich stuff but I guess they'll do, write to Isaac very soon he complains bitterly of neglect I send down a lot of butter most all of it very good that in the white box is super excellent but perhaps not quite salt enough to keep long I don't know how much there is it ought to be a pound I meant you should give Mrs Ward out of the avails of it if there is so much & you may have what is over if any — we are knitting some gloves and stockings for J and you — Give my love to Mrs Brown and thank her for me for taking care of my boys

Dear Son Joseph E says you have been unwell I have expected it, that you are taking Lobelia I am afraid its not best I think you need relaxation, rest, do now Joseph come right home you had better leave your work now a few days than be obliged to leave it for months perhaps give it up entirely they can do without you a few days I know — I know that it is important for a young man to establish a character for attention to business & all but attention to ones health is certainly more important if you are able to come home & come you'll gain it in your business for you can't succeed in it if you are not well we have heard the Typhus fever is very prevalent and very malignant in Bs about this time — Do write to Isaac I feel very anxious about him now partly the cause he feels so nicely about building a chest home I don't know what to say but it seems that he must have a little help or his chest must fail & C & you & E must help C think perhaps he could get Gilman to go & do the work a day or two did n't you better come home with C & think you had they can get somebody else or do without a few days

Mother
Oct 1845

F. M. & E. W. Metcalf
Bangor

~~Alvin A. M. Metcalfe~~

Maine

Alvin

11

17th Feb 1848

Very Dear Son

(we dont always feel alike, besides
I regret some things I wrote in my last letter I
did not mean to be taken so much in earnest & you know I al-
ways express myself too strongly — I think that if at last is not
much misunderstand you — Can sympathise as Albany says, with
you in in regard to being misunderstood and also in regard
to unsociableness if that is the right word for it I rather think it
is not — I have often (tho' not quite as much lately as years ago) staid
away out of the room when I had company as long at a time as it
would do to just because I was ashamed and mortified that I could not
bear my part in conversation — But there are always some per-
sons with whom I could be perfectly free and sociable — I think I
myself was in fault & have tried to get the better of it — Still I be-
lieve with you that what is call'd Social intercourse is not always enjoyment
I regret because my letter made you sad — "I did have in view not
so much to teach, (tis to late to use that word I need to be taught of you)
you to be happy as to try to make others so — I take the liberty
to doubt whether the best way for you to make others happy is
to keep out of their way — Do you wish to have your friend all
keep out of your way — Are there not benefits in Social —
gatherings — Why were the Jews to congregate together three times
a year

I am much the most likely part to be misunderstood because I have
not the use of language wherewith to express my poor
confus'd ideas — You have very clear ideas very few persons can
express themselves better in writing — If your mind is like a rich —
Mine is it not your duty to fetch it out for the use of your fellow
Creatures — Well whatever else we do may we at last find a seat
in that Great assembly where Mind meets mind without a clog or
cloud between

19th Feb Saturday night 10 oclock

Ever Dear Son Eliot I have made one pair of your Shirts the coarse ones we have been rather busy this week but wanted to, and did finish one for because of such a good opportunity to send ems — your thread was hardly good enough & not enough of it But it is just as well as we had enough

Lucy is the first to make Bosoms & Collars & with you wants look at Josephs and just see how nice they are

Any time when your or Josephs want Shirts (not if they have linen Bosoms tho') I should esteem it a prevelege to make them

In regard to Settlement that Joseph said something about what can I say or do — had n't I better let it all go I doubt not that G. would willingly supply me with whatever he thinks I need as long as I live if he has the means of doing it even if it should take a much greater amount of property than he has to me He may not always feel so but I guess he would

Perhaps I had better leave it all with him — Trusting — He is in the hands of an over ruling God

If I should live to see the time when I cannot Labor I might feel more dependant than would be agreeable to such a proud spirit as mine — but if it is best I think I can bring myself to it — We have said almost nothing about it since last July and have hardly thought of it (I don't love to think of it) but as I am upon it I'll answer Josephs questions as far as I can — The Title is vested in me without any Mortgage or drawback, is legally perfected by registry I have an impression that the Note was for 12 hundred Dollars and that it was given 10 or more years since but I have not seen it since nor said any thing about it or known where it is — it was witnessed I think by Henry S Sargent

It is best to think it a matter of any consequence for you all know that I cannot be willing to have any thing like grasping or hard thoughts

Mother

Probate settlement.
$1200. in note 40. -
Feb 19 1848

Jem. E. H. C. Mahaffy
Bangor

Oct 11th

My very Dear Sons J & E

You must [illegible] Mr. Sargent & Mr. Mercer & others have [illegible] with considerable labor & anxiety & exertion, collected together Money & Wool enough to purchase some Wool Cloth for or nearly
a Full Cloth. 13 2 yards wide & Lord & Hassell
They think of sending to request you to get it, & us if they do do you get & get that which will not face — Grant's wedding Coat which now is have been a handsome Coat these 4 years is so faded that it is all one Spoilt

C. has sold his ewes or rather bargained them away to a Mr. Doe of Ormsville — lives near Mr. Kearse — for 75 on next April — has heard since that the Man is not worth any thing do you know any thing about him

He talked of going to H. & Bangor this week but there is always some bad luck you know — Nelly is very lame one leg swelled very bad & broke out in sores can't go a step i.e. don't take her out of the barn

Yesterday got in the last of this Corn how much rainy weather we have had — I guess He will hire a horse and go as about 10 day or week after next
will if he goes at — Mr. H. Sargent is very much pleased with his Barrel of Flour says it is a little the best that ever he had

C. & A sold Sheep to Elder Lord for Money & sent the money by him to get each a Barrel of Flour Ours was no better than common Scratched flour Almeda's is so bad that she won't use it — Edial I have had my right arm have a little more of the Rheumatism since I was last in Boston never expect to [illegible] such a feat again ha! ha! was not you taken with having such a weight hanging on you — I told Mr. Allen I forgot to enquire after your feelings at the time — Tell Lucy — very much obliged for the dress it was just what I needed what a blessing it is to have good Christian

I am some afraid Albina will be disappointed of her Ride
and visit you must know that Esqr Rich has not taken his
young wife out a ride for pleasure scarcely since they were married
she has got her 10,00 at last. is going to get her a nice Shawl therewith
I suppose you have heard of the Tragreat end of Mrs Es Severance
a strange occurrence
you may send me a Letter when you have convenient opportunity & get some ink no matter about the other things
Albinea is going to have the dress I had of you Joseph ~~I will pay~~
as it is not quite so suitable for me — I shall send you a few pair
of Stockings & gloves perhaps if you can dispose of them and as
fast as you can get a pair or two in that way you may put it
to Isaac's credit — he ought to have some pay "every little helps a
little" as the boys said, I shall have the satisfaction of trying to
do something

Chauncy is to let his oxen go in a fortnight if the man brings
such security as will satisfy him, if you know of any chance
to do better please inform

What why dont you write to me do write soon
when are you & Joseph coming home you will come before
winter wont you — I had a letter from Brother Nathans
Sister Lois died the 4th of Sept the day after she was 40 years
old

I want to see Isaacs letter to Lucy he did not write me any
thing about his sickness I have ~~had~~ many fears for him when he is
sick tis most always his head he has been threatined 2 or 3 times I
think with that dreadful desease Brain fever he makes too light
of sickness — warn him to take care of himself he thinks he has
an iron constitution but his all artificial all made up of habits he
may venture to far before he is aware he was born a feble child has not
the natural constitution that most children have

I thank Samuel and you for your letter go on in ways of well doing.

To my Lucy Dear Daughter

The cloth for dress was very acceptable just what I needed am very much obliged dont know as I can get it made up till you come — can tho' if I try doubtless little Charlie Whitaby has been unwell ever since I came home is better now a few days — there dont seem to be much time to work Albina means to get hers a nice shawl all circumstances considered I thought rather wait till next fall I think — She could put her money at interest you know where she could have it there but however she may want to wear it a few times — I have to talk to C. & Albina about keeping their faces smooth lest their brows get knit with care — Jane did look like a little miserable Castaway I came home she had not a very good appetite in the th[illegible] weathers, & of course worked hard A. tries I believe n[illegible] but She cant keep from fretting about her work — the ba[illegible] has been & is very good but She would think she has wondrous trials if Almeda was in such a good hand to laugh her out of it Jane is very healthy now eats as much as a man almost is neat smart driving round in the house and out too I believe she does as much work as all of Almedas children Jane is babyish and lazy but is very strong and smart when he has a mind to be — your shirt I got done last week only I could not put it quite all in, you can finish it when you make it up — think I shall send it by Stage as it is uncertain when C. & A will go if at all — I just heard about the same heard C. might have taken 125,00 for her and take pay in land but thought it not best to sell unless she could get something to pay money debt — good bye

Charles was going to take the Cow down to pay for the stove if his horse had not been [lame] this week if you could happen to mention the reason why he did not to Mr. Noyes the store man it might prevent some difficulty perhaps Charles said he did not know but he ought to write to him but he is so busy I dont believe he will

Joseph Eliot & Lucy

Mr. Noyes

Oct 6th 1854

July 2nd

My Dear Son I thank you for your good letter to my self & Anne. Your letter generally bears to me the incoherency & appearance of having about them whether it is for the want of time or to shew that you are a "business man," I don't know but I think it is usually best to give yourself time enough to do whatever is worth doing at all — however I am very glad of any thing from you & of your Eliab has hardly written a word except what pertained to business & was absolutely necessary since he went there. perhaps he dont have time but it seems to me he might — I am afraid you work a little too hard or take too little rest and allow yourself to get nervous — take care and keep yourself cool calm & steady — you are too sensitive and fine spun to get along well in the crowd and stand your ground among all the hustle & bustle that are unavoidable in a business life but you must try to lengthen your feelings and brace yourself to it or when your feelings give way and let other people do as they please without being disturbed by it what if you are among & subject to the "beck and bidding" of such as you describe try to be humble and faithful act the part of a Christian and you will find in a most every one some thing that is amiable and lovely you cannot tolerate the misanthrope try to think much of your own faults but be very charitable to the faults of others you are fond of order and method and it is well to be so but do not let it worry you so far as to be fidgetted by the want of it in others you will accomplish more business and do it better if you allow yourself sufficient rest and relaxation than if you strain yourself in a fever all the time with every nerve strained — if you've got a good place don't get uneasy with it the initiatory or probationary state is in any case a state of trial & the greater the trial the more refined and fit for use the subject of it will be and if now you are really gaining what will be very useful to you in after life I would not grudge the time if you get but small wages a year or two now & soon passes away but & stop this strain of anxiety let your faculties & body have a little rest — I am going to write to him but one thing I want you should do that is to invite him to spend a few days with Charles tell him I do want to see him & Eliab a few days and let him come home by way of Cincinnati he never has been gone so long from me you know before & besides I think he absolutely needs to leave a few days or his health will suffer by it it would be very bad for him to be sick there & if he should come home and the fresh air and relaxation might prevent it Mary says tell him to come do I want to see him you can't think how we do enjoy ourselves flying about like a squirrel among the corn, Lenten pigs & chickens Strawberries & cream on Cake & Dorothy she has improved herself more now about all the matters & things on a farm than she would in a year. The Cherries & Strawberries & Milk has grown splendid & smart — I expected C. would go last Thursday but it rained so that he could not tell E. that it will be just in good time for Strawberries next week and do try to have him come.

This an unfortunate unfathered affair which is not worth
your reading only I write upon Rent, and it for the sake of my evident
to Mr Brown left & to come if he can it will do him good
Charles just had another letter from Jessie & just received a letter from Isaac
Smith has been talking and considering about going to Bangor
but he can't make and to get any thing to pay debts with or to buy the lots
of the things we need we have 30 or 40 lbs of butter but that will do no more
he thinks now that he shall go down thursday and see Mr J. L. D. but it will
not be of much use as I can see guilty of the

Mother
July 2 1845

To Joseph M. Mulcahy

July 29th 1845

I should be glad to write a long letter to you & Elijah & I owe one to Isaac too but I have neither time nor a single sheet of paper to write on if I had I have thought for 2 or 3 summers past that I never could work so hard another summer but it comes harder and harder almost—it will be easier this by and by & I have got along with it better than I expected— Our folks began haying today & Charles is most sick I don't see how they will ever get done for L tho' a good steady fellow is but a boy. Most people about here began last week but they had better not for it has been rain rain rain they lose their labor and hay besides I send this I suppose with A's bucket of Eggs by the way they are part mine and part the others that she sent 63 cents of the others part mine & five dozen of these all which you may take to yourself it may be I shall pay you all up somehow or other at least I shall try the last nut I sent I meant to send to you but forgot to tell Charles I don't know as I had he could for he had no thing to get any thing with & I can't get along without as I could if I had not boarders [A. tells me she has paid me the 63 cents] I feel bad my head that we can't all help enough to enable him to stay next winter. I got Charles to say that he'd let him have the old axen this fall but I don't know as they would be saleable C has swapt off the steers and got a yoke of the same age which the Shanks would sell better & 6 dollars to boot If this convenient for you I wish you or Elijah would get a good load cow bell and I'll send some butter when the weather is cooler it takes Lem'l or C or him or I every night to find the cows and often not till the next day most noon all the cattle [14] got up to Mr Crosbys once and he drove em off to pound cost C 7 or 8 dollars — when are you coming home. if you and E are not fix'd so

right there that you never came get away a minute I shall work you
had never gone there do write me both of you
why dont you tell me whether you got those Records I sent you
by Barry Sperry and send them back or take care of them till you
come I have no copy of them

Joseph Metcalfe

Mother
July 9/45

Chicago June 12th 1847

My Dear Joseph,

I am just as busy and rather unhappy about Lucy's going back She is—there can be no Doubt of it—in consumption—it may be incipient or it may be not—Your Father call'd himself well (and we believed it) till a short time before his death—but it was proved that he was far gone in consumption many months before—we must all die and if we are prepared 'tis not so much matter when but still it is a duty to try to preserve health and life I agree with "common sense & the Doctor" that it is perfectly plain that She cannot have the chance to get well there that she can here—and if something be not done soon to restore her health She must soon bid adieu to Earth—does etron do any of us feel willing to have it so, without an effort to prevent it—I am aware that it would be very bad for Ann's School to have her leave but she can get some one to assist or how would it do for her and Liese Doetz to enter into partnership if their schools were nearer together and they had a house large enough I should think it might do well—Circumstances were such that I did not say a great deal against L's going back I thought the ride might do her good—but she must come back—every Day that she goes into School or sits at her sewing renders it more improbable that she will ever recover her health—Now cannot you or Ethiah come up with her in 2 or 3—weeks at farthest I tremble almost when I think of her staying so long

The good fresh air, the fragrance of the Clover fields & by the new mown grass the good rich new Milk and the perfect freedom of thought look, life, and limb—how can she forego and suffer the Tight dress and the inevitable Constraint necessarily consequent upon her present situation I suppose that the ride down are planning that perhaps it will

not heart her — but supposing it should — suppose it carry her beyond the reach of help — Is it not risking to much

Dec. 3. kept week

I want you or Eliab should furnish me with some suitable cloth for Isaac some Shirts so that can make them soon Charge it to me and I will pay you when I can Lucy ought to have sent his Shirts that she is making up to me the poor fellow went away almost without — I tried hard to get some cloth 2 months ago but "Burkes" had it not & you did not any of you send it

would nit it be the best thing that Isaac can do to come right to Granger and study Theology — what else can he do that would be better — he says that he could pursue his studies there three years and support himself and have a hundred dollars in the mean time — probably he never would be rich and grand in that way — Supposing it to be very desirable — is it very certain that he would be in any other — Could he not be devoted to the cause of Christ and be useful and is not that enough — Ministers are needed here & there and there are many who are doing good that are no way Inferior to what he may be — you will say 'Tis a self denying hard life So it is, but that does nit scare me if he is a faithful Servant his reward will be equal to his work — He talks about being a Doctor — but it seems plain to me that he is not fit for that

I wish you and Eliab would consider his case and advise him, he wants to and ought to make up his mind soon very soon — I wish you would both write to him on the subject

Eliab I say to you take care of your health I am afraid you work to much I want to dispute but what you are naturally lazy enough — but you are easily excited and on an emergency (which frequently happens I suppose with you) you are in danger of exposing your self exerting yourself to much or getting taking your meals irregularly if you are not careful, when the heat of Summer comes on you will be sick again — tis better to come home and invigorate yourself a week than be obliged to leave your business 4 or 5 weeks

I charge you & Joseph too to leave your business there a week at least in the month of July, tis your duty so to do, for the preservation of your health

Send me my Son when you have opportunity a ℔ or ℔ of good green Tea — and do Elias write to me tis a long long time since I have had a letter from you It is just as much gratification to me now to know all what you do and think and feel as it ever was — but you'll never know how much that is unless you should live to have "offspring" of your own

Charles has got 2 acres of Corn planted just coming up grass looks very well I haint heard any thing said about the wheat & Oats

We have got some ground nuts planted in the garden — some few fruit trees set out this spring but no front yard fence made yet

I told Isaac that if I could get near what his worth I would sell the brindly line back Cow when she has calved which will be perhaps in a month and send him the money if we could'nt make out some without, will it sell well or will it be to late in the season do you guess

Mother

June 12 1847

Lucy's health. Jane's prospects.
Settlement of property affairs

Recommendations to me

Burn those letters

The P. & C. soon don't forget

Mother
June 12 1847
Lucy's health. Jane's prospects. Settlement of property affairs.

Mr. J. C. Calhoun
Washington
City

Mila jusve

I have a opportunity to send to the ~~Birth~~ Village & will just say that if it is convenient for them Almeda needs the girls to get her a mourning Tab to wear in her Bonnet Our folks want a few yards of Crash and some ~~linnen if you can find it~~ inside a yard wide Crash linnen or Tow & linnen or some thing that will do for Cheese Strainer we can whiten it and do come all of you it is your duty to your selves & to me besides we have come to no settlement yet only talk'd over the preliminaries Can't seem in any hurry about it we have only Skirmish'd a little (in Soldier phrase) — he is ~~somewhat~~ ~~cautious~~ doubtless perfectly willing that I should have all I need & want he if he had the means if he had to furnish it out of his own property & I don't think he is naturally very much more covetous than others but there has been such a concatenation of circumstances that all have a tendency to promote a saving parsimonious disposition that I wonder that any of us are tolerable in that respect I know that it has had a great influence on me & it would of course more or less on your younger ones I have often thought of it and deplor'd it — he has been more tried, severely tried, (owing to be some, his part, at least, to his constitutional defects of character) ~~than~~ ~~the greatest~~ than any body you can think of — in the first place he ought to have been content with his parents if he had not bought the east lot nor that still nor the 1/2 river lot it seems as if he might have lived much easier & happier but his fault is to be always grasping after too much — I guess we can come to some accomodation about matters (by the way it would have been far better if it had been done last winter as I wanted) for I don't care much how it is done I am not afraid but what I shall have all I deserve the short time I have to stay it may be very short tho' there is considerable reason to fear that I shall live to extreme old age for Mrs. Goldsbury said to say the Stevens's never die

Can't Ann leave the school friday noon and so come up in the stage noon don't forget of coming I want you and Ebenb that I can scold at you about matters and things — about your sneak you have had might with propriety be admonish'd as well as the

What shall I infer from your observations respecting the mothers of Emi nent Men is it that I must despair of ever having any eminent men among my Sons — or rather having any of my Sons eminent men disappointing my expectations were never raised very high on that point perhaps I may have them fully realised — I should like to know what you and E think about the propriety of my venturing to raise them a little higher yet

Do do all come home it seems as if it would almost kill Mrs to stay there all the time till August without any relaxation & you & E need it I know & as to the expense I should rather if any of you I should rather lay out $8 that way than 10 for medicine — C. has got 2 acres of Corn (not hoed yet) Grass, Corn, Garden, and every thing about looks well, is growing beautifully but C. is even so much behind his business as usual

If you & E. Cannot possibly come with the 4th with A & L you must both come soon Certainly I cant settle up our Matters alone (I dont know but C. would prefer to) but I dont know any thing about such matters — Our affairs have all been so knit and braided in together that it will be like pulling out teeth

If I was not apprehensive that it might if neglected be a source of greater trouble some future day I should almost want to let it all alone

I should write this over and Condense it about 75 per cent it might be better worth reading

~~I want you should say to Mrs~~

what shall

Mother

Settlement with Chas. H.

June 1847

Wells Aug. 1847

3

Mr. J. M. McCaig

Bangor

July 21st

My Dear Son You are rather severe upon J. S. M.— It is not very strange that after 3 or 4 years absence and close application to study he should spend a few weeks or a few months even at home in enjoying and as it were acting over again the scenes of his childhood

I regret that he has not long ago made up his mind as to his future course of life. I think it would have been better for him but he will I guess when he can get decided upon something & get fairly engaged in it pursue it with alacrity and perseverance he has been helping L Sonne about her Herbariums & has been at work some with Charles at Hoeing for which he calculates to pay him and will I presume— It does rather appear to me that duty points him to the Seminary at Bangor he could probably go through with the three years course there without getting in any debt (he could by teaching 3 or 4 months this fall with what C. could help him pay up his Bills) If his mind is right and he feels willing to do what duty requires he can in that way become a very useful & and probably a talented Minister I can't see wherein he has better any prospect of success or usefulness in any other course open to him at present However I don't feel very anxious what he should do but I shall feel quite relieved when he has fairly got settled in something

22nd Isaac Stout's to-morrow to go he knows not where and do he knows not what— talks that he shall from Brunswick go on to Mass. has been at home just 3 weeks is that a very long time it does'nt seem so to me— The present is a most trying time for him I have no doubt— Lee Stone enquired about a "boy" I think that Moses Greenleaf is just the one—

Abby Hill intended (Fred Going) is going to Bangor today, on his way to Bnsp. with Naomi, and I send to take Letter, so we'll send those which Isaac forgot. No time to write any more. Expect them along every moment.

Put the enclosed Letter in the Office, if you please, or deliver it in person. Also notes to Ann & Eliab soon as you have Opp. When is Isaac nowadays? Gone to Brunswick, or still at Bangor? Write when you can spare time, and tell Eliab to. In haste Good bye

Lucy.

The "enclosed Letter" I have taken out!

Mother
July 21 1847

Ann, Isaac, Mother,

Commencing business with
Turton

Aug. 8 1847

Mr. J. M. M

1.2.9
441
2.1.2

Aug. 18,
" 1847

My dear Son

I feel some what alarmed for you — are you "laying wide every night &c," among all your Multiplicity and heavy weight of Care do give your self time to reflect — that all these things are swiftly passing away — therefore let them set light on your mind and let them not take the place of better things — Ann wants me to write about the school house which I suppose ought to be done but I can of course say nor do any thing about it you must think and act your judgment She wishes to that I should say something about S. W. & going into partnership with you but he has been you before this & I can only say that I do not see any thing why it might not be a good plan but of course I know nothing about it we shall try to make a few red shirts for you

I very much thank you for the little bundle I have brought up by my brother in great haste

A. M. Metcalf

Joseph, I want to say a word to you. I do really not see wherein there is, or can be any objection to Samuel's going in with you in business, as it seems he would like to. He is certainly a capable man and one likely to succeed in most any thing, especially any Lumber business. The only trouble would be danger of risking his property. He probably has 700 or 1000 in Cash, about this time. He want to [illegible] his business. Some such thing should be a great help to your sister & likely well for you. Think of it carefully. Relatives are better than friends.

Brother Joseph

Did you receive my letter last Sat. about that troublesome thing, the schoolhouse? I there in mentioned my conviction that it would be better to do it now than next, Nov. if your engagements both mental and corporeal are such that you can conveniently attend. I should like to have it thoroughly done, and well dried; in hopes not to have any thing more done to it for years. E. Doe's plastering has never started any yet. — Charles says the best and cheapest way is to paper it with cheapest paper and that he will carry me back middle of next week, and paper it himself: or Will you then cause to be done whatever ~~done~~ must be, preparatory to it: Cheap paper will do just as well & will last as long as the best. You need not pay the man for plastering but let him wait till I come: If this course is taken I think you will have no more trouble from it for some time if ever: Lucy had a letter Sat. from S. W. F. stated his desire to go in with you & that he was going to see you about it as he probably has; Such a measure would be very agreeable to Lucy if best, it would place her in Bangor and you and I could board with her, besides other good results; if pretty well prospered you could take Eliab in two in two or three years.

Nilo Aug 18th 1847.

Dear Brother Jos.

One of your shirts, which I have completed, I send, desiring you to examine it faithfully & thoroughly, and see if the rest shall be made like unto it.

The wristbands I made narrow as Elijah desired his made, & as Isaac told me to; also narrow binding as you directed. I have made no buttonholes in the bosom because I knew not how to fix them for studs. Ann will fix them if you tell her how you want them. I think, however you will like some small, plain buttons better than studs, as the latter are very troublesome about coming out, I have been told. The buttons you sent are quite too large for bosoms, and look rather clumsy I think, for any part of a fine shirt. If you think them right however I will put them on the rest. Please examine particularly the bosom and about the neck and see if you wish any alteration in the other, and if that needs fixing differently return it by Isaac. You sent only linen enough for four shirts, (and some additional collars) to put bosoms in Isaac's and in one pair of yours - the others make without. Can you tell me how you want collars made? As usual, or some new fashion? The shirts are all done except putting the linen to them (collars, wristbands and bosoms) but I do not like to finish them entirely till I know if that suits. So please let me know by Isaac. The bosoms you sent up cannot consistently be altered as they are stitched, and there is

not enough in them to make good bosoms as we make them nowadays. If you with more made, I will make them for you. The wristbands of your shirts look rather small, but are a little longer than the measure which you left at home. Charles sold the skins tother day and of the proceeds I have got five dollars which Ann is going to spend for me at your store if you've got what I want. Besides which, pretty soon, I am going to send you a pair of red shirts, and I desire you, if you please, to let me have the worth of them in cloth &c. such as Ann shall select. The shirts will be forthcoming, and if you will you may send the things whenever Ann gets the shirts ready, either by Isaac or some other time. The shirts we shall send will probably be like the fir which Almeda now sends down. I send you my Bible, with a half dol. which Brother gave me; and desire you to get it bound for me, unless Isaac can attend to it. I have considered the matter, and conclude that I had rather have this bound than get a new one for the same price. Though the print is not very good, it has engravings, which a cheap one would not have, - and besides it is my Bible which I have had a good while, and wish to keep. There is one leaf loose in the beginning of Revelation, but they can fasten it in I suppose. No hurry about it - any time when convenient. I feel most wicked now-a-days to wear my shawl, when you are in need of the money that was paid for it. Can't help it now - and suppose 'twill have to do the whole to get a good one. I found a collar tother day with your name on it which I will send. Unless you tell me differently, I will make a few just like that of the remainder of your linen.

We expect to send a little Bees wax for which Albina wants to get the needles &c (pin money you see) & Almeda wants my minds we should send some to Mr. Theodore Thaxter who requested her to get me to send him some—he will give 2/3 a pound She says he will be very much disapointed if it is not sent because he is troubled to get that which is good—If you should go to Boston you could convey it to him A. says he & wife now almost angry that you did nt call there when you were last in Boston—you had better call there and at Mr. Chases whenever you go to Boston

But do as you think best about sending it— Do get time to write to me sometime and tell Eliab to write

Mother & Lucy.

Making shirts selling wool
& Sunday other worldly
Matters Aug 18 1857

Brother Jos. Br. Mellen
Burgess

My Dear Son August 31st 47

I have just got a letter from the office directed to Isaac ~~Mead~~ at Northfield which I took the liberty to open — The Contents of which was as follows Viz

Northfield August 25. / 47

Dear Cousin. Having Heard you were desirous to obtain a Situation in Some Engineering party — I have made application to A. F. Edwards Esq. Chief Engineer of the V. & Mass Rail Road who resides in this place I told him you were acquainted with the theory and wished for an opportunity to learn the practical part of it & thought he could give you employment — will let me know in a few days — if he does will wish to have you come immediately The compensation will be 30 $ per Month at first please inform me if you would like the situation & I will let you know the result as soon as possible — J. A. Stevens

Lucy has written the same to Isaac to be sent on tomorrow morning but will it reach him before he starts from there — If you know any thing of his intentions or his whereabouts more than we do your superior knowledge will direct you what to do in the case

Martha still visits here today — Blake Blake but not a word about "that Dollars

we are all well Do write Soon I am afraid you'll be
disappointed in little Moses I suppose he's not as good a boy
as he was before he lost his Mother but he is the more to
be pitied you had better watch him close and carefully and
try to do him good — I should'nt think he could earn his board
at first — they are well pleased with the opportunity for him.

I should think Isaac had better send a letter right on to
Northfield (unless he has something else better in view) and come
right home and get his clothes &c &c all fixed up ready
to go

good night, tell Ann to write
to your affectionate Mother A. M. Metcalf

Dear Brother,

'Dean Samuel' popped in here last Sat. morn all of a sudden and gave me your letter, if letter it could be called. Much better than none however. Hope you'll not be so much hurried after hours yours then, if he yes. Sam said Greenley thought he could not pay his board; & I am thinking you'll hardly like to take him on those conditions, though I suppose he is a good little boy - intelligent - and I should think would answer your purpose very well. I have got the flannel to make a pr of red shirts, and will make and send them soon as I can. Suppose tis hardly season to sell them yet. What shall I do with my sheep? Almeden wants one, will buy it, but can't well winter the other two. I'd like to have somebody buy them for I want money more than sheep. I must make haste and seal these letters or they won't go in season, so good bye. Affectionately

Lis Lucy

I mean to write good long letters soon to you and Eliot, but am hurried as usual. Not really a sufficient excuse I suppose, though. Wm. Curtis from Kenyon and Daniel Dennett debated at the Village Hall eve, the one against, the other in

favor of Slavery. We did more for us go.ᵀ a great gathering. Dennett pretty well "used up."
pretty tap.

Lucy & Mother
Aug. 31st 1847
Situation at Northfield
for Isaac &c.

Mr. Jos. Mr. Merriam
Boston

Milo Sept. 6th /47

Dear Brother Jo.

Mrs. Lee informs us that Moses is going Wednes. and said she would send him down to take letters for us if we wished to send; so I'll take the opportunity to write some, though I am, as usual hurried.

Mrs. L. says Moses is much pleased with the idea of going. I hope he won't be homesick: he is a bright little boy, and I think, just what you want. Be very kind and loving to him, especially at first, while he is a "stranger in a strange land". Remember he is a motherless boy, and in a sense fatherless - his father has very little care over his children in any way - don't know much about them. He had a good mother - an uncommon one - but has been under very bad influences since her death. You must train him, kindly, and make him what he would have been if his mother had lived. Henry is a very kind boy, & mourns still

I sent a letter to you week before last, of which you have made no mention, and which I fear you did not receive. You owed to take them, and I supposed would see them, or put them in the Office. I rec'd a letter from Isaac last Sat. mailed the same day we mailed one to him about the engineering business. We feared he would not receive it before leaving Burns-

wich, but I guess he will. He said he intended to have sent me some linen to make him bosoms from your store, but would write to you soon about it. Mother and I are going to make each mother pr of red shirts for you, and if you please you may send us when you have opportunity, the value there of in cotton cloth, considerable fine - about middling perhaps. not as coarse as the 14 yds you brought up for Ann, and not quite as fine perhaps as your shirts.

It is interesting to write some of my anxieties about little Moses but Lucy has anticipated my remarks "pretty much entirely" watch him carefully at first till you get a scrupulous regard to honesty and veracity fix'd in his mind & try to prevent his being tempted to any thing that is wrong - not that I have any suspicions of him in particular but it is needful for all children - I pity the little fellows very few children could lose so much in losing a Mother - it would I think be good for him to bring her to his mind help him to remember her - good bye &c M. M.

I have had other work that I was obliged to do, but that your shirts are not quite finished yet, but will do them very soon and send them when I have opportunity. How do you like Sam for a partner, or have'nt you had him long enough to find out. If he is going to get a boarding place in Bangor, make him find a good healthy situation, will you. And you may come and board with us! I have got my flowers all in my Herbarium in their right places but have not fastened them in yet. Isaac helped me when he was at home.

Joan Hatch is published to Robert Howard of Brownville - lives in a neat white house next

above Mr. Lewis. She is a very fine girl. Her equal is perhaps not to be found in White Pains in life. It be Tip Taylor. She has been home a stated a few weeks, and gone again to Lawrenceville N. H. to work in a cloth hall - folding cloth - has three dollars per week. I believe besides her board. She means to earn some money, I guess. Aline has closed her school - is at home now. Athy Hill is going to Lawrence in a few weeks - Tony is going to meet her in Boston. Folks say 'tis quite romantic to elope but not quite so much so to elope alone!

Your horse is as good as a kitten - stays quietly in the pasture growing fat. Albina and I have some idea of using him now and then as Charles don't like to have us drive Polly but don't hardly dare to drive a strange horse.

Charles and Albina went to Dover the other day - got the Insurance business all straightened up nights as you said. They carried wool intending to buy cloth and manufacture sundry pairs of shirts for you, but the wool did not hold out much more than to pay what Charles was owing Brown. Don't know whether they will get any for you at Cushing's, or not. Mother has taken my sheep - so I have got rid of them!

I have written all the gossip, news &c I can think of, considering I have been washing, and have written three other letters today, as long and longer than this, and containing about as much valuable matter. When Moses gets there to help you, I shall hope for one of your "correspondence letters" occasionally. However I am willing to wait patiently when I know you are pressed with business. Good bye Affectionately

sister Lucy

Lucy J Mather
Sept 6th 1847
Moses Greenleaf &c.
M Tuber

Brief Mem for Hon. Mr. Mellen
Barstow

Dear Brother I spoke to Mr Greenley when he went along to enquire about the probable sale of shirts at Ironworks and he discouraged me either because there is not a good chance to dispose of or more probably lest I should wish to trouble him with them. He said should think I could not sell there for he had noticed they have many in the stores there and I could not afford to make as cheap as they get their slopwork. Dad asked him to take a hr to you had not time to set a price but Charles was going "tommorrow or next day" & I waited to write by him instead of by mail but he has now concluded to go next week or week after so I send forthwith. The shirts contain 8 yds of cloth for which I give 4½ lbs of wool and 144 cts for manufacturing. I want to get 50 cts for making but could make for a little less better than do nothing I have made some of better cloth yd wide ops which Cushing says they all wear 6½ yds for a pr but by cutting out several together can get them out of about over 6 yds, cost 5 lbs wool and 1,50 cts for manufacturing and buttons, thread, making and all ought to receive 3,50 or to get Cushings price for cloth 4,60 for a pr. He sells his cloth so as to get from 30 to 33 for his wool he gives 25 cts cash for wool. The Ferris's pay that at Iron bank I could probably get 4,00 for good shirts but could not sell poor ones If you cannot get more than 2,50 or 3,00 for shirts I must quit getting my wool manufactured but if I could sell advantageously it would be well for me to turn my labor to more profit than my wool alone, and Cushing will take eggs, lamb, pork, anything I can spare for manufacturing can I sell good thick shirts for good price better than thin ones for 2 or 3 price at your store please give me information. I send you 15 lb wool I wish you to get me flour, Molasses, &c as much to my advantage as possible perhaps C will go down sometime and can bring up if not, want you should send up by somebody. I want to get a small shovel for James to clean barn and if you can find a stone churn I wish you would buy it for me should prefer one with stone cover but at any rate want a churn, have sent by Charles all summer

When I quit here I am going to take a house in Bangor and board all my brethren, Ann and Lucy are each going to do the same. Had not you and Elab better marry so you can do so too

So my Daughter Ann I must say that the Irrepressibly is that the S.W.T. will not choose to board out at any rate except for a very few weeks if at all— and as Almeda is confidently calculating upon a very little in course of proceeding therefore therefore there seems to be many difficulties in the way of accomplishing your plans I dont see just how you could get along with the expense of starting the business however I have not had time to think of it much we will ponder the matter A seems to think that you could not do it in connection with your school near as well as she could with her children as their board or food rather could be of what would be left &c &c— I guess you had better get married instead if you can get a good chance

Sept 17 th Dear Brother said horse is doing well gains in flesh fast I have fenced across the head of the Intervale and put him up there it is a very out of the way place I dont know as I can get him in a better place unless I should take him of to Atkinson or on to a great distance Billington Niles Carver, Greenleaf and some others know that I have got a horse from Bangor here in keeping but they dont know whose it is I should think he would be as safe here as any where

until if you want him removed

C W Fitch

Mrs. Charles Fitch
Farmer Maine
Sep 17 1871

Hay. Dear Son. We had a very great and good feast Saturday eve in shape of letters from Isaac & you.

In regard to Stockings & Gloves I'm sorry I troubled you with'em you've got so many already — don't bother yourself with'em send 'em back when you have a chance — The Shirts we had better have sent to Iron Work perhaps - but no matter ——— I wish you'd tell once in a while how you are getting along in your affairs and how you enjoy your mind in your multiplicity of business — And Eliab what a very great addition it would be to my happiness if he would write frequently such letters as Isaac does he writes just as if he was willing I should know just what he is about his conditions, thoughts and feelings — We had a letter from Eliab last week with a valuable "lining" for which we feel very grateful but shall let L. take it I guess — I mean and want to return it to him again but really I don't see how I am going to get a cent to do it with this seven years but there is no knowing what may happen we have said never a word any of us since you were here about any settlement I don't know as there will ever be any but perhaps it is no matter I shall have what I need doubtless some way or other 'tis but little here below nor long. In regard to Asa's plans it seems as if it would be very pleasant to you all to have a home there. If "Mr F. takes L. to Hamden perhaps A will think no more of her "plans." — But tho' I am well enough off and contented as I am — I am willing to go in with A. & do any thing I could little tho' it may be — If and provided you all think it best the greatest ~~abatement~~ in the way of some such ~~m~~ manoeuvre would be pride and extravagance but I know nothing about it — The pants we have made & if we can do them to suit would be glad to make as many more as you wish us to A. is smart and wants to do any thing to get out of debt

The cloth you sent was just a right pattern for form for could have sent the small for a little longer if had known there would be enough or not enough thread but we had some made strong if not handsome. Send some more if you can

Milo Oct. 13th 1847

Dear Brother Joseph

Alfred Holman is going to Bangor tomorrow, so in great haste I scribble a few words to go by him and a bundle which I had been some time waiting for an opportunity to send. The article which is wrapped round the shirts is for Ann. Please wrap it in a paper and deliver it soon as convenient. I send the shirts which you are to dispose of according to your own discretion. Mother will tell you about them. We have wondered and wondered expecting every mail to hear from you, for a long time. Three or four weeks ago a letter was sent to you containing 16 dollars, 15 of Almeda's and one for Ann, the receipt of which we have been expecting. Almeda worries much, fearing it is lost. Isaac's big bundle we have heard nothing from whether it arrived safely or not.

Do write and tell us all about the things I cannot stop to say any more - Albina is waiting for me. Why don't Elick write. Tell Ann I have been spinning some agonizing pretty stocking yarn. Fourteen and 1/3 skeins to a pound. Ann going to spin some for her. Good bye - Affectionate Sister Lucy. Don't you expect to come home this fall. Do.

he send you 2 pr Shirts which you thought worth what you suppose you can get for them one pr is made without bosom extra heavy stout cloth fear you can't get what they are worth they ought to be not less than 4/8 pr one pr & 4,5 for the other I send you one pr Stockings long & good and one pr short woven gloves just to see what I can get for such if I can afford to shall knit more if you can't sell them & when he goes down may carry them to Mr Thomsons who trades in Waukens where Hudson lived gives 2/ or 2/3 pr stocking Mrs Sargent says why don't you come up & visit us Strange you don't write here you nothing to say about the Horse in haste good bye

C. sends enclos'd in this 13 Dollars which is to buy flour 2 Barrels he will feel obliged to you or Ethiel if you will buy the flour as & when you think it best no particular hurry about it only to get it when its cheapest we've got enough to last several weeks has not paid his Taxes is going to try to hire Alfred Hatman and try to get out some Shingles to pay him &c

If you have any news from Isaac since he started on his Engineering send it . Do you know whether he has got his Trunk I out of patience at not hearing a word from any of you

2.50 50 00 '20
5.00

To Elizabeth Ann Rich

My Dear Daughter As to your "plan" I did'nt say much about it when I wrote before and dont know hardly what to say now. I should have no particular objection but there are two things that come exactly across it 1st the least thought of it distresses Almeda as she has been cogitating the same plan & seemes to think it the very & only way she can get a living — But by the way I think she is getting along quite comfortably now and perhaps it would be quite as well for her to get along where she is for several years ~~to~~ if she only had a little shanty house in good repair — but her building need a good deal done to them & it costs her a great deal for wood & 2ndly S. has expressed this idea pretty strongly to L. that he would prefer keeping house has boarded so long wants a home &c — If L. should be as well as she is now she could very comfortably do the work of a small family with small help — She has been spinning 3 cuts skeins in a day works like any thing all the time has gone a foot to Dr. Kimballs today to make a visit — She has knit a long fine stocking for herself in 6 evenings — I should rather like your plan as our account if you could make it work i.e. in very many respects should — tho' I am very comfortably situated and ought to be thankful I expect it will seem different when Lucy goes I shall miss her exceedingly I dont see how I can stand it when she and all of you are gone — Athina is clever but _____ She is'nt Lucy

We seem to be getting along pretty well The Cows have done well we've had a good parcel of butter C. has got 50 or 60 bushels of excellent sound Corn lots of beans & punkins — and Athina very smart and well now She stews round and washes and contrives and calculates She is young but will if she lives make quite a good housewife I guess

I wonder why we have heard nothing from you any of you for so long time — I thought that a business man like Joseph would acknowledge the receipt of Money bundle &c immediately

Mr J. M. Meteuly

Bangor

No. 10 Broad Street

Portland
Oct 15 1849

Milo Nov 10. 1847

Dear Brother Joseph

I this day received your letter and in answer will say that I am very h-e-e-m-m

My Dear Son As Alonider made her ~~bitter~~ so short I will write a little to tell you that I want you should take care of Eliabs health if he wont take care of it himself. I don't think he's fit to go back but he will— he has eveently ^ the Liver Complaint a real dose of Calomel or some such active medicine might now throw it off —perhaps shall send you three pair of very stout gloves we sold some to Mr. Bunker at 2/ should send the rest there but Albina wants to get with them some paper to paper the kitchen which Mr Bunker cant get— if you cant change them for the paper just put them in the bundle & send em back ~~if you~~ or do sell them as you please

If you send any more pants to make put in more thread, worth 2/6 or 3/ to make em but Albina says she would be glad to make some more for 2/ pr pair rather than not make) for the sake of paying debt If you have time for it I wish you would write a long letter all about your journey to Boston your success in your business and whatever you are willing to relate in regard to yourself make haste to send home whatever news you get from Isaac —— May the blessing of God attend you and keep you from every ~~evil~~ good bye

Notice

Nov. 10 1847

Mr. Joseph M. Wildcat

Bangor

Dear Joseph

I don't think I am very apt to worry about my Children but I must think about 'em and why shouldn't I not? I am thinking much about E. of late you'll say perhaps E. is doing well enough — true his pecuniary compensation is enough perhaps — But can any amount of paltry pelf whatever be a sufficient equivalent for the loss or lack of intellectual and physical Strength he has just no time for reading and Study his mind grows perhaps but it is all in one direction all in the channel of Mr. B.'s business they are shrewd and cunning & he has had every thing to make him completely absorb'd in it and to foster his love of approbation which is his weak side he is the hero of his own story & in short has too much vanity & egotism it is not strange at all considering how he has been circumstanced — But would it not be better for him to have 100 ℔ less wages and have 4 or 5 of his time or his evenings (perhaps) and improve it carefully in obtaining knowledge of various kinds (especially Self-knowledge) such as is necessary to make any character complete — You will say he is getting a good knowledge of business and good wages — But what good will that do him when his health is gone E is quick and bright, he has a good mind and if improved as it yet might be would make a strong & substantial character — But his health that is the one consideration in the case that ought to be attended to now

You may take all this tirade for just what it is worth but don't show it to E. it may hurt his feelings It means simply that I think he had better not stay at Mr. B.'s any longer than this year and not even longer if his health is not better than it was when he was here. You know Lucy kept about and would not have it that she was not well till her cough was fastened upon her for life probably as his will soon be if he don't take care there is the more danger because it is hereditary

we sent by Mr Welch one large Bucket of nice Butter and a firkin for Mrs Reid of Bason extra nice — Almeda sent a green Bucket and a peck Box with a paper of directions what to purchase with it I wrote also informing you about it all which things I suppose you have recvd before now.

I wish you would see Eliab often — go to his room some time stop and talk with him — Speak with Mr Brown about his health and make him be careful of himself and take more exercise — attend Lectures singing School most any change is better than sticking there so close

also wish you coming up to keep Thanksgiving with us I want to see you very much but I cant promise you any gratification worth the expense of coming except the side I think that would do you all good and is perhaps absolutely necessary that or some thing of the kind to take your mind off a little from your continual load of care

Nov. 21st This epistle was taken to the mills last night to send with the things when an opportunity should be found, but as none presented, and as a letter from Ann was taken from the P.O. Charles brought it home again. I will insert them in a letter to Ann & the following for Almeda I send by mail tomorrow. Ere you may wonder at not hearing from us. ——

"Dear Brother & In addition to the articles named closed in Brothers letter which is going with the butter goes) I wish you to get me one joint of tinned tape inch to 5 ft and two lengths of 5 ft inch, to send up by and tell Ann I want those rubbers badly — have wet my feet continually. Send a Comforter for Jan keep them. Almeda."

are you not coming home to keep Thanksgiving with us I want to see you very much indeed and you need a relaxation from your tedious burden—But I cannot urge you to come for I fear the toil and the many disagreeables you must have to encounter would far outweigh the pleasure

I think it must be very hard for you to walk so far this fall and winter I think it must be not only to tiresome but to much a great deal to much exposure to wet and cold—And how much it must wear your clothes and shoes it seems to me you had better get a place near to your school if you can

20th Nov. C. discovered last night at the mills that all our butter &c. which we supposed Welch carried to Tuesday remains yet at the Village. Being [illegible] go. Expect now it will go first of the [illegible] put this to go with it. For flour we are pressing need of, and want the other things. Especially Albinia's rubbers. She goes with wet feet constantly - has been sending for them ever since last spring. Don't let Anne forget them, & remind you of it. C. is just ready to start - good bye

Do you hear anything from Frances Howard? Don't let Elizabeth get out of sight of you. Albinia feels difficulty for fear Anne has been at trouble about getting her things with no means - as the latter did not go.

[illegible] on the ship en-
[illegible] letter &c. if it ever
[illegible] hearing from ship
[illegible] by first opportunity,
[illegible] none to wear &
[illegible] Canes if you

Nov. 21th There are so many dates and parts to this etc. I don't know as you will be able to understand it. We have been expecting and expecting that Charles or Mr. Welch or somebody would go down. But the butter and a letter of instructions remains yet at Bunkie's store waiting. It will probably go however the first of the week. Do write to us Joseph. It seems a long, long time since I have had one of your good "correspondence letters". Don't you ever have time to write a bit? Tell us all about yourself, your business, health, prospects, troubles and everything. We'd be glad to sympathise with you. Tell us also about Elijah, his health and everything if he won't write. Do help him. Be careful of himself, and at him help you. Health is something which I fear you neither of you really know how to prize. Do try to find time to write one in a while. Good night. Affs. Sister Lucy. Tell Elijah I'll write to him after Thanks

Mr. Joseph R. Bailey
Bunkie
La.

Miss Lucy Bailey
Nov 1874

Monday morn Dec 13 1847

My Dear Son you want to know what you are to do with Butter marked Reed & Hanaford engag'd a Firkin of Butter the other Reed a friend of hers but as the could not I put down some very nice as I could in Sept. & tried & tried to get it to Bangor but behold after I made out to get it Marked the hand forgot or lost the direction the Mans given name and the No. of his residence — you will if you please sell it as best you can the avails of it you may keep for me it is my perquisite or profit of my part of the farm and my work this Summer — Tis possible it may have got too warm sometime (it was in Burnhams Store a while) but I thought I think it is very nice butter you might take it to your boarding place or sell it to Sydney Thaxter for Extra Family Butter or do what you will with it I have ~~Could~~ Cared for it so long that I am not going to care for it any more — what weather it is I don't see as ever I will go to Bangor or or we have any Flour only barrels Mr. H. Sargent has got the money to send to you to buy him a Barrel of Flour before it rises the hundred it was $7. 12½ Please send the price of butter &c &c

Samuel handed forth your Epistle for Charles Saturday. He (Charles) has been waiting for sleighing to go to B. sometime. Will go soon as any snow comes. Hiram waiting. Cannot write — I purpose to journey to Bangor &c. soon as sleighing Good bye

his Dad.

Milo
Me Dec 15

5

Mrs J. M. Metcalf
Bangor

Uncle Lyman ready
last mail to answer it as no

Boston
Mass
Dec 15
1870

Are you not ever coming home & want
to see your Ma N Ann & Eben to visit

Dec 6 1844

'Tis said that to enjoy perfect health there must be Symetry & appropriate actions of all the different parts of the system
So not the same true of the mind. And are you not Cramping one source of healthy action of the mind by your unaccountable unaccountableness — What have you to do with a Sombre mind — Seeing every thing as in the shade of a passing cloud Postpone if you please your Sombre feelings till you get to be old then they will & perhaps the thick shade too be forced upon you whether you will or no — But — I have fears that you will not live till you are old if you suffer yourself to be so over cautious, reserved, and unsocial — It might do if you were on a farm or in the woods where you could converse with the birds and flowers — Now you can find naught to frequent cheerful company & enjoy it 'Tis your duty to be Mirthful and jolly make yourself engage in some joyous amusements at times If you will not I shall fear for you a loss of health or what is worse aberrations of mind — even now there are some things I can hardly account for — For instance you call upon L. for payment of her account of 16 or 12 $ when you know she has nothing to pay with and then say it is all paid long ago — & now you melt by your facitiousness damming up some of the "Sources of the highest joys of your friend" If you were a parent would it not be happiness to you to have the confidence, to know the joys and sorrows of your children
Sabbath eve 6th Feb. We expect Charles Horne next Saturday he will probably know Something about Hattman & Hectors affairs I can't tell any thing about it except that they have been making things & hatching them out to the Tannery. By the way, you did tho' I hope you did not mean it express such an imputation or Suspicion of dishonesty as not many Men would bear peaceably the thought in regard to the note. I felt hurt and offended at the time but I have not heard from it any thing since. Brothers should be careful about giving occation of offence Proverbs 18–19

dependance
You say you dislike that word but could you avoid the feeling in some circumstances that might be raised

In regard to the Kind Butter (which I took so much pains with thought to have brought me 25 cents pr lb. & would if it could have been sent to Boston when I first got it ready) if you have disposed of it I want to get ½ a dozen good silver Teaspoons with the money and the rest— unless he wants to get some kind of Health restorer with it you may take to pay you what I may owes you there were 55 pounds of the Butter I think that one Sheep are in my possession with Charles's flock I should like to have you take them likeness & whatever more there is I will pay you when I can perhaps with my wool next summer — we have not said or done any thing in regard to settlement of property since you were here but the idea seems to be that C carries it on and allows me one half of what he raises on my part— ought I to keep an account of what is raised or let it all go as it always has and be taken care of by and by like any of the rest of the Children — I shall I never feel dependent if I should live to be old think ye — But why should I think any thing about it they both seem willing to do every thing for my comfort as much as much as I could wish them to —

I feel very anxious that something should be done for Lucy's health I think she might enjoy good health if proper measures were taken for it but if she must be so much confined at home & with so little time she cannot live many years

we dont have any preaching this winter. Lis 4 or 5 miles this once I have been to meeting Do write to me when you can conveniently have leisure for it — I like some of Mr. Fitch's ideas very much indeed the drawing back the shoulders and expanding the chest I wish you & Ethel would practice upon the precepts inculcated, get your some shoulder braces it would benefit you both

Ethel — my pet

Lyon

Milo March 18th 1848.

Dear Brother

I send "Butler's Analogy" as you requested, also "The Chosen Home" and a few little bits of my own, as you desired; though there is nothing worth looking at. If I had not been cavilled at and discouraged, but had persevered, I might perhaps have been able, sometime, to write. Perhaps it might have been well to let you alone - but I don't know as I regret bidding "farewell". Very possibly I have employed my time and thoughts as usefully to myself and others as if I had turned my attention to writing. Why don't you send me the rest of the Poetry which you spoke of? Do.

I am much obliged for the book you sent me. It is a very good story, from which I have rec'd some useful hints, - though I think "Anna" is represented as a little too perfect - don't you? Your advice also is kindly received, understood, and its value appreciated. I have thought much of the trials, and especially of the responsibilities of a wife, and I feel that I am insufficient for them - utterly inconpetent, in my own strength, to meet, and bear up under them. But I hope to be enabled to lean upon One whose arm is strong, and to look to him for grace to assist me in the right discharge of all my duties, whatever they may be. Will you not pray for me that I may be enabled to do so? I have probably much to suffer in my feelings - owing, in part to differences in our "bringing up"; which may lead to misunderstandings on both sides - though with no intention of unkindness. I know very little about the state of Samuel's finances, but he seems to feel as though there was no cause for fear in his business prospects. Mother says "They that know nothing, fear nothing"! We have seen and known that you have had tribulation in your business, and have been sorry for you, though perhaps we did not realize the extent of your troubles. I hope you will get out and feel at ease again before long. With regard

to my expenses, I desire to be prudent and in [illegible] so for
and [illegible] suggestions from you with regard to what is to be done, shall be very glad of any time.
as I know how. Your cogitations which you think upon at
sundry times, I shall be very glad to see on paper. Tell
us all about your journey too, won't you? I do earnestly de-
sire you not to forget to hand our brush and combs to
Samuel the next time you see him. Ann a. has the
They are at your store awaiting for transportation hither.

There are three or four cases of small pox in this
or rather varioloid. Aron Tolman & wife and some B
dales. She former perambulated round Among the Village
ous times, at town meeting &c. after he had taken on
with it. So every body at the Village has him exposed. If
ple are not more careful, they will suffer when it comes w
weather. Charles went to the Foundry last Tuesday, han
wood for one Mr. Eaton, I believe. I have not time to wri
all I'd like to today, either. and none to Elijah. See him
write to me. and you do so too when you
I'll see you
in May.

Good bye affectionate sis

[illegible] Rowley Dec 1st
[illegible] 1844 as nice. I don't know whether
it was nice meat any more, or not —
This dear Book & poetry and time
[illegible] Some days. We have gone now
has he did not know it when Sallie [illegible]
&c. I received [illegible] Monday
Anne — Blood 8/44 —

Some say the due & say about Small Pox
is only a fear case of "The itch!" I know
ordinary about it. There cases running
Lowell. See Elijah his wrists are
Lowell. Yesterday. We spent
done. ready to clean if going [illegible]
You have not written how your [illegible]
[illegible]. What weather it is! Clear
I Pure was no opinion GH in me. 60°.
Le morning Fair & Pure East wind.
We attend with a dear this in the Parable
of Seven Barren words to Evangelists
Their Rewards Heaven Hell Time. Parable is
Down, words Evangelists Parable
Duties Con-

can we all pray up all their Bills & he thinks they will of course know nothing about it but from there may be addemend against them that may come in the way

C says that he must unavoidably pray Grandpa some [illegible] when he makes up his dress [illegible]

My Dear Son I thank you for your kind and encouraging letter—but must caution you against too high an opinion of yourself—remember that "pride goeth before destruction" Sinner to think more highly of themselves than they ought to think But give all honour to Him who in great mercy has put it into his gracious promise to the widow & fatherless for his own name's sake — & pray for me that I may be ever filled with gratitude that my Children not only are to me but are signally useful in society. But what is far more—Heirs of heaven to a better inheritance than earth can give

As I can't do nothing else I will put up with your protest when against social parties great or small all gatherings for mirth and amusement &c &c — but do you not think it right to allow yourself or perhaps force upon yourself some kind of relaxation from hard work—close application of the mind—and incessant toil

As to settlement— Tho' the property I have brought there & the work we've all done seems considerable yet there are other things which perhaps ought to be brought in to the scale 'Tis a great deal for a young man beg of Christ ego to take the whole care of a Mother & your little children I shan't allow not only hindered C from doing well for us in every instance as he might have done. with this one exception that one his plans for settlement

to my expenses, I desire to be prudent and prosper so far as I can. Now congratulations which you think upon sundry times, I shall be very glad to see on paper. Tell us all about your journey too. write soon I do earnestly desire you not to forget to hand my brush and combs to Samuel the next time you see him. Ann writes that they are at your store waiting for transportation hither

but it has occasioned a great deal of fretting care anxiety and patience which money could not compensate — he has not as much of worldly wisdom as some — tis his nature to be negligent — but he has been a dutiful Son kind and affectionate to us all — He has been and is & is likely to be hard prest in pecuniary matters — you will say it is his own fault — But it is not so bad a fault as some

As to knowing what I ought to have & dividing I dont see how it can be done but cannot there be some plan proposed for C. to keep Cows & sheep for me to have the profit of some kind of a certain allowance of something or other that he could do without distressing him and that I need not feel dependant

Charles says with an air of confidence that a year from next fall he will be out of debt — seems to think he shall sell off his cattle next fall and work out in the winter — but he has got I dont know how much to pay this spring (the Chase debt can stay I suppose but at 25 per cent interest) I dont know but I guess there are 50, & perhaps or more besides — he rented 6 weeks for Holmes & Sargent at 28 per week this with which he expects to pay the Chase as far as it will go but I am very much afraid he'll get disappointed about getting it Everett has all Hector's concerns in his hands Hector has as he expresses it made a league with the Devil [meaning Everett] however C. says that they have certainly made a good business work with

care will pray up all their Bills, & he thinks, they will. I of course know nothing about it but fear there may be old demands against them that may come in the way.

C says that he must necessarily pay Wyatt some cattle next fall when he makes up his drove from this town as he has put him off from time to time till the may last fourth — I hope he can let you have a cow this spring shall try to persuade him to but you must not depend upon it

The deed describes the whole farm I suppose I had no title or shadow of one before I dont know what considerations I suppose the document conveying personal property was simply a Bill of Sale, no other note that I know of — I dont know the date of the deed — guess may as long ago as 1835 — but what matter is it it is not worth while to overhaul all that chaos but to try to come to some amicable arrangement for the future — Can a note be outlawed if witness property?

The Sheepskin you speak of he left to Almeda and Ethel

Tell me if you please just what you think about my going to Mass. when Isaac goes back — I have hoped I should go again sometime but had not a thought of going this summer till Isaac said I must I dont know what to do about it — it kinda seems as if such a poor old shiftless thing had better be at home I should prefer not to go till after autumn or two now it not that may never have so good an opportunity — Do write to us all about your journey & whether you go to your Uncle Ethels plans — I want Ethel should write to me what are his plans for the future?

A. M. Hall

Milo Me Mar 22d 5

Mr. J. M. Metcalf
Bangor
Maine

April 8th 1848

My dear Joseph In trying to recollect & think over any thing & every thing you said when you were here I seem to have obtained a little dim light which fills me with apprehension I seem to see you setting out in a dark mist and thick fog to cross on a slender plank a deep an fathomable abyss — probably I have not expressed myself just right but as you are pretty shrewd you can perhaps guess at my ideas when I tell you I suspect you are about choosing your mate or more for life I thank Heaven a young man as I did you to get married at the same time it is as — Charles says marrying a fearful risk — & I feel particularly anxious when any child of mine is about making a choice especially my boys now I have not a word to say pro or con in the matter and would not willingly have, if I was well acquainted with the person only I would say if the die is cast — if you have passed the rubicon just let me know & I'll cease to worry — If you have not be wise and get all the light you possibly can ——— which is after all, just about none at all — in most cases — now be frank and clever and let me know all about it, not that it would do any good as I know of except to afford me a great gratification without much cost on your part

You enquired if the purchase of the Comprehensive Commentary was money well laid out or something to that effect — I don't know exactly in what sense you meant — But I think it was well the gratification as good which it has been to me has in my estimation been more than 15 $ laid out in bank stock yearly 30 per cent. if your children were not perfected by it tis your own fault — 12th You are requested to send up by Sam'l 8 rolls of paper suitable for the kitchen and little Bed-room & two rolls like the others for the chamber — Allen has made out to an Order on her Uncle Charles for the two dollars if she could have got the interest too it might possibly been enough for Carpet but

Miss Alice M. Mills
Frankfort Me.
Via Belfast.

[illegible]

Mr. Henry Ward Beecher
Brooklyn N. Y.

Sept 27th 1848

My Dear Son

The enclosed I sent by Charles but he forgot to hand it to you the contents are of two such immediate importance as to need attention I'll Charles goes down tho' I am sorry he did'nt hand you the letter I'll send it along with this —— I write at this time to say that the French Dictionary Ann wants is not any where to be found in our "diggings" it must be that you have got it there or else Isaac has taken it perhaps — As we do not have to send the Dictionary we think it best not to send Upham as C. is going down in 2 weeks probably and you had rather wait than pay your own fare

Charles perhaps told you how he had a Dun from the Jump man whom he supposed Mrs Walker had paid as he agreed to — this occured sometime ago and C. when he was dun'd wrote was provoked and wrote Walker a scalding letter and told if he had any honor in or honor he would settle it up immediately — he call'd on Walker when he was down but he was not in did'nt see him — he guesses it will all be right — but I wish you would ascertain whether W. has settled it or forgot it again — as C. will have a Writ soon if he is not —— N. B Will you to relieve Mrs Delano mind ascertain where where Eliza Doden is and how she is or get Lucy to so that Abbina can get the story when she goes down or better write it to me. & I'll tell her

A. M. M.

Mother
Sept 27 1848

5

Wells
Main Sept 29

Mr. J. M. Mitchell
Bangor
Me

5 or 6 yds Cot Flannel
1 2 lbs Bar Soap
½ lb Tea
2 lbs Sugar
Silk & pound.

Wednesday morning [illegible]

[illegible] I would be very glad [illegible]

[illegible] I [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Mr J. E. Godfrey Spoke to Charles to send him a lot of Butter such as Charles had when he was Here before & he is minded to send it before perhaps he wont want it now — however the Butter is not perhaps quite as nice being made later in the season but you can tell Mr Godfrey to look at it if you think best

This whole concern is small potatoes I reckon

good bye

If E. Ingersoll Esq
Hartford
Conn

Mr Bunker has remarked on the
Mill Mexico Bay & has done big business
Columbian Journal

Charles has got 2 Men here at work getting out shingle stuff but can't expect to get any profits from it till next spring — But soon he must have some flour — (we're all out) & wants you to get him a few Barrel of flour and take the Butter (about 30 lbs which you must sell for 17 cts or more if you can) to pay you and he will send down more as fast as they can to pay the rest and what he owes you before on account he has gone to bed & I've made a long story of it I don't know as you can tell what it is but leave and know this letter when you have found it all out

Excuse this writing & the ink as I am all out of pens & have to use this one which I found in the drawer of the desk

I have not had a letter from you for a long time & I am afraid you are sick or something has happened to you

Sam is here yet & is going to work for Mr Hinman & Mr Mills this winter

Mr Hinman & Mr Mills have moved their mill down to the Harbor & are doing a good business

Sam has got a good deal of logs on the ground & will have a good deal more before the snow flies

Sam is going to work for Mr Hinman & Mr Mills this winter

I have not had a letter from you for a long time & I am afraid you are sick or something has happened to you

Excuse this writing & the ink as I am all out of pens & have to use this one which I found in the drawer of the desk

15th

I have just seen you, when I am in a grumbling mood and that you are not at all concerned about coming up to see me & the rather expect me to come to you — I feel almost out of patience sometimes that I should stay 6 or 7 months without once coming home — but a man, woman will leave Father & Mother & cleave to their wife or Husband" as the case may be" — Parents have no more their babes when they get to be old men to mean themselves — sometimes feel more sad and lonely than I us'd to I don't know why

Pray for me that I may have more of Meekness Patience Humility & every Christian grace

18th Charles has not sold his oxen yet he wishes me to say to you that you may have them at 70$ (and take them this fall) if ~~you~~ you can dispose of them & I believe he said that if you can take the oxen he can let you have hay enough to pay up the rest of what he owes you but if he has to keep the oxen all winter he can sell no hay

By the way why don't you get married C. says that 5000 would not compensate him for the disadvantage and loss he has sustain'd in not being married 12 or 15 years ago — Can you get for me at the Tract depository "Thoughts on Missions" I will send Asphum when I have opportunity

I shall send you when I have opportunity Gloves &c for which you may put to Isaac's credit as much as you can afford "every little helps" He ought to have a lot of pay but how he is ever going to get it I don't know

I want also 1 or 2 lbs of nice Batting or wadding tell Lucy if you think of it & she fetch it To put in Vest & Cloak perhaps ——

There is a real lot of depredations in this town Mr Lee has had a bout all his fruit stolen all his best fruit most all that have them have their fowls stolen there was a party of Men mostly, a few boys with them had a Spree out in the woods one night eating stolen chickens and drinking rum since which a parcel of boys John Dolen among them set out for a like feast but some of them got found out we think John Dolen took ours, but we dont know he went & there a while lately and knew just where to find them and and was seen by some one who met him with some under his arms —— Smith C. could sell and move out of Milo if he could only find some one to give him what his farm is worth and he could get a business at painting or some Mechanical work — the Town is now in debt, this said 1000, More than they have due and talk of hiring 5 or 6000 more to build 2 Bridges which will make the Taxes very very high for years and years to come there are a great many voters in town that pay no Tax but Poll tax who are always ready to raise ever so much money and this as I K. Jarvis said the more a man owns in the town the poorer he is I guess there are a certain few that help themselves but the public is not benefited so much by the money raised — It is just this Compare C to a Beast of burden who has more load than he can carry and is on a journey which he must perform & I set to look on and feel the struggle & Shivery to get along

this page is full with perfect nonsense skip it over

but I sit here in a little smoky corner and dont know any thing but to bend the great heavy sqirming eel of a of a Charlie how could I write any thing else

But tis really gratifying to see how nicely A gets along notwithstanding her Desolate, destitute condition — They do love pretty easy She thinks that James works hard but he does not half the work that you boys us'd to at his age & Lucy is always busy doing nothing Jane does twice as much work as she does every day but A. has many many excellent qualities and is a very useful woman — In some way or other "by hook or by crook" she seems to be always nicely provided for at the last pinch — without the industry and determination to work that almost every one would ~~they~~ she must have in her situation

Mr Kittredge has bought this town of Mrs. Wells y 1600, has sold quite a number of farms since among next the Crooked Lot to Mr Richer So we shall have new neighbor Mr Billington expects to mo to New Jersey next Spring — Did you send my letter I cannot why dont he write to me. Mrs. Gilman is living yet I suppose She has not been moved at all for about 4 months

In whose Law suit is Ebab a Witness is it the coming home first — When are you coming home

Mother

Nov 15th 1848

Selling opens Morals of Mild

Millo Clee

Nov 20th

Mr. J. M. Metcalf

Bangor

Me

Wells Nov. 17th 1849

My Dear Son

I am going to write you a few lines this time by way of keeping up your courage for writing — I do hope you will not get discouraged and stop writing — Why don't you write — I am sadly disappointed in not hearing from you — I have had a letter from Grace since she went away and she says she is about writing

I want a letter from you just as soon as you get this — next week I expect Mr. Hall and Mr. Hall will be here — Mr. Hall will be in Albany on Monday next and I want you to come down and see him — bring your money with you

I want a letter from you by that time — Many things are happening that can never be told you — will be interesting to me when I see you — I have had good health — all the family have their usual health — Mr. Gates has been sick — but is about again — He has got the room over the store — you will not know the place — a little over a year will make a great change

Address Postmaster

Mr Webb & Mr Morton [illegible] night
last week went down to the buildings after dressing at noon
as it was light after evidence to try to [illegible] Jem long
as before but I guess they could not make out any
thing as it has been since that about it

Mr H. Jones has been [illegible] some sort at Mr Isbell
Store which was crowded full of people. Most all the
Men have their dogs and were [illegible] Bears

Thomas got back to Red Bluff on Monday evening
about dusk without [illegible] Bear. Jim Hall
down the river to stay with Fred [illegible] Bear [illegible]
Fred & Jim to bring the Canoe along to Jones's [illegible]
& then to keep any bear — Mr Weaver [illegible] Bear
if he don't send him something before next week I don't know
but I ought to apply to the [illegible] — There is no prospect
of the mercury going up this winter & I [illegible]
just as well off next Spring and Summer as now

I suppose they get to the [illegible] about dusk if it is true
Mr Bainbridge [illegible] and Dr Griffin [illegible] and
[illegible] with [illegible] about it I suppose

Thomas got his [illegible] all about all [illegible] had 4 or 5 [illegible]
of dog fish [illegible] on the [illegible] about 100 [illegible] of those
Mr Johnson is [illegible] full of both and they are a [illegible]
[illegible] by Jones & Hall are [illegible] [illegible]
have not caught the [illegible] I must close

I had this day written to you to [illegible]
[illegible] Charleston to academy deliver a lecture on Education
Well when we got there the Journal & your letter of the 13th so
[illegible] I will add this piece that I can
[illegible] I could write that's now more Smith in it — the lower part of the
House will probably done in 2 weeks, the [illegible] might be [illegible]
[illegible] Plastering heavy done we will not
[illegible] will not be fit to sleep in
a considerable time and probably the front room might be in
3 or 4 weeks by keeping a fire in it Lucy wishes and expects
[illegible] you to be [illegible] & suppose you
will [illegible]

I advise you to—but I fear you must [illegible]
dont mean just so—but that they and you are liable to falsely es-
timate overrate & deceive yourselves any object closely con[illegible] late
will eclipse all others—but I say [illegible] May it
May our Heavenly Father direct you to [illegible]

If you are really being benefited [illegible]
& you go on but be not deceived If you want [illegible]
& could not John & Sam'l with my help assist you so that it might
be expedient for you to be there—But S. & L and Ebal[illegible]
use you better than I can—If any [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] for you but what
[illegible] to go to Kenyon for a while let me know
[illegible]

Mother
Nov 17 1849

I received your very kind letter
[illegible] last night it was very welcome
Charles has got to go today to Brownsville
get hair to plaster — Our Miss [illegible]
[illegible] young ones and no [illegible] gent per-
haps not a for[illegible] yet are nothing to eat
Edward has just come in a great [illegible]
[illegible] Tuesday [illegible] getting for dinner
morning [illegible] 28th Nov

Nov

Tuesday morning 6th

Charles went down to Hampton Wick about 6 o'clock ... to bring the little canes - in the morning they are frozen over - and exceedingly cold - I suppose you have heard - I suspect that - Isaac is dead Mr. Law is getting worse ... Mrs. Aaron Salmon died yesterday Monday week - a week ago Tuesday morning from Hampton N. H. to Brooklyn N.Y. & there are 3 days more during the rain Tuesday - price 2.00 - You know I suppose that Lucy has not got to have her baby yet & is going to remove into the Hartshorn house - I had a letter from Isaac last night - Charles has one from Ethel about getting Miss Benjamin Hunt of Hamney - but he has not made his appearance yet ... Mrs Gilman is much in the last two or Charles hurrying & now getting ready to visit with him - Mrs Fisk is sick & I will not go there so I have to be chief cook & bottle washer

I suppose we have many inquiries to make of you - & doubtless it will be a welcome surprise - We may be in Portland by Christmas but cannot tell when - I hope you will write more in answer - for it is [illegible]

Many [illegible] ... [illegible] ... [illegible] ...

Boston
Nov. 23 1819

Mr. Wm. Wirt

Dec 17 1849

Motter

Saturday morn Hampden Oct. 26

Ann has not arrived yet we hope this days boat will bring her—

I dont know hardly what to say to you about poor Lucy. I think she is very sick. The Dr. says she is very sick he told her at first that she was sicker than she thought herself to be. she didnt want to alarm her. She has had very high fever pulse from 120 to 130 and exceeding sore all round her stomach & back with very hard cough and dry till today She raises a very little. There seems to be a change in her symptoms a little since yesterday She has slept more & has coughed less seems not so feverish night before last she scarcely slept at all had such very severe severe pains in her head back and right side & shoulder she could not lay in bed stayed on the Sofa changing her position every 2 or 3 minutes. She or Sam'l dont appear to be very much alarm'd. Perhaps the change in her symptoms is a favorable crisis in her fever. indicates we shall see whether the fever comes on again at night

John Furber came here Thursday was half sick has been taking medicine. I cannot tell whether I had better go home. She says Almeda would be next of all the world to come here to take care of her but that it seems as if she could'nt have me go. we'll hope she has begun to get better I'll write more tomorrow morning

All her difficulty the Dr says is occationed by inflammation on the lungs If that can be remov'd I suppose

& Dr. says hers is of the worst kind
all is well but Lung fever, is always I suppose attended
with considerable danger. O such a dreadful hard harsh
cough if she speaks a single loud word (she talks in
a whisper). Evening the Dr here at 5. thinks Lungs Sym.
toms a little more favorable She begins to expectorate &
that is what he has been trying for days if she can get
to raising freely it will relieve her Lungs. I think I
shall not go home monday at any rate & I cant tell
just when but I think of Dear Joseph not a little
Dr. M. Cross seems very gentle & careful with her
he bled her a very little at first. Last night put a
slight Blister on her stomach — I suppose? you are glad
to have me there particulars
Sabath noon Lucy is certainly somewhat relieved but is
very weak and sore can speak but very little, and only in
a whisper, because of her cough. You will perhaps be
fearing that it is to hard for me I have been nearly worn
time with watching &c but I have endured it wonderfully
(She slept more last night than she has before) I slept good the
last part of the night or rather this morning & I feel well
& strong If Lucy recovers as fast as we could reasonably
expect She must not, cannot work for a long time to come
Eliab was down here this morning, has gone to see if he
can get a girl Mary Bedcroft that they think very much of to come and
stay a while till Ann comes perhaps. Almeda must
probably come when I go home, which possibly may be
the day if not I'll write them let her be preparing
herself (which she will need to do about clothes & in many points
with all dispatch) I suppose that you Joseph will enjoy a quiet

as well
to have Lucy or James with you to take care of the fire
cut up your food &c. & Almeda be there only a few min
utes in the morning, and so make it easy for Allina
as you can, She has got as much as she ought to do.
Sam's Mother is expected to come tuesday and be here
while she is receiving the Doctors attentions She is lame
but can probably help some. if she is not so that she needs
attentions of a nurse herself if she does it seems that she
must be somewhere else, Eliab has returned could not get
the Girl he went after — but I think it is perhaps just as well
Do give Joseph every attention that he needs, I dont know
why I say it I have no doubt but what you will
I will go and consult about going home & see if we can de
termine any thing
you will of course get this monday eve, — write every thing I
want to know send by Mrs. Farber who comes in the Stage
I suppose. Send also a paper of Catmint, which may be found by
looking on the South end of upper shelf, closet in east room.
also if to be had, Almeda's Syringe (large one) — possibly I may come
home Friday & Almeda come Saturday write all what you
think about it — Lucy must have the most vigelent care the
least "pull back" would place her beyond recovery.
why dont Ann come? one of Almeda little Blankets if
convenient but no matter Lucy wonnes some about I
says she dont want to be selfish but she dont know how
She can bear to have me leave

Hampden Sunday Eve

Dear Bro Joseph

I believe mother has written what ~~you~~ can be written about Lucy. Perhaps She feels more discouraged about her than the case will warrant. I feel confident that She is better than she was a few days since, am sorry that I could not get some one to come & stay with her. Mary Beecroft would come but her brother James is very sick, & am not acquainted with any other person who would be just right.

Crescent Division have voted to appropriate $ for a library. I am one of a committee to select Books, what shall I select, Your "Temperance Tales" am sure would you not like to present them to the divisions, please write by first Mail. & send me a list of such books as you think would be good ones. also about the "Tales"

Lovingly Christ

Mother Hamilton
Dec 26 1852

Grandmother

Elyria O

Elyria Dec. 1st

My dear Son Charles

Why is it that I do not hear a letter from you & Albina? Charles writes almost every day & he wrote me the Monday of sickness that the house had been set on fire & that you got up & carried Albina out in your night clothes? He says, he cried & was frightened but he says Albina cried & was frightened but he says Albina cried & was frightened but he says Albina

But do take care of your health — dress warm
& comfortably & dress fully & all of you mostly good
palatable food well cook'd that is not to be
for you & eat more good fat beef as we do here
plenty of good Beef has been sold in this vicinity
$2,00 & 3.50 per hundred Isaac gains 3 dollars per a quarter of very ex
tra fat nice ____ beef [illegible] corn is 25 cents a bushel
on the [illegible] table .25 Cts per bu in the Ear. 50 cts shelled
per — in Farmington 15 & 16 cents are
Isaac says that a man can make more raising it
at that price than they can in Maine at the
price it is worth there

Dec. 19th I began this letter some days ago, before receiving
yours of the 4 of Dec We were very glad to get the Letters
(by the way they might all have come in one envelope)
I had letters within 24 hours from Eliot, Hattie, Mary Ely
& Hattie Small all at once — If you would write oftener
it would not be so much of a task to you — I wish you would
write oftener & more particularly — There is scarcely anything
that happens about the family, the home Hattie or the
farm or the neighborhood, but would be interesting to some
to know And I want to write many things to you just as
I would talk but I fear to have my Letters lying round
for everyone to read — I wish you would just throw
away somewhere or burn them

I am very glad that Mary K Wedge is going to board
with you on several accounts. I hope it will do you
both good I fear that in consequence of living there so
much you'll grow narrow Minded selfish & [illegible]
not to say boorish & uncouth I hope that you will

for the sake of your Children if you care nothing about it for your self — try to keep up with the times you are so well formed by nature for cultivating the social feelings & the amenities of life — & learn so little of the great business & religious spirit of the age — That you might to make the more exertion — time moves on — see more can you get your mine & heart more imbued with love & kindness to your fellow creatures — I think Charles that partly for lack of opportunity & more perhaps by neglect of opportunity you have failed of filling the sphere that your natural powers of Mind require of you You have a strong — and discriminating mind a discriminating & correct judgment — But from timidity & lack of exertion you have kept yourself too much shut up within yourself — But it is not too late, rouse yourself use your self, 'tis never too late to mend, to try to grow better — with a mind stayed on God a full trust & confidence in the merciful Redeemer — I can speak feelingly on this subject having been so very delinquent myself.

I do so want to see the Children and you & wish we could live near each other, the little time I have to live. I feel contented & comfortable but often think of my good pleasant room at home & should like to be there now and then a morning & see you & Allen coming & so I take a few moments of the day

I am glad you read Beechers Sermons
made the same — have just been reading Mrs Cone
in the paper Dec. 15th

Thinkern of school closes at the end of this week there will
be 2 or 3 weeks vacation — Mr Ry's sister Mary dies or as she
calls it is so short for her now that it suits the case so
I can hardly tell if she has grown tall & slender too
more use to her — unless we take out the "a" from Mary
down & that now do not look very well

Charlie wants answers to a great many questions
he wants to know about Jesse — how George Reese
& how every thing is going along all round there &
at the village mother Cathy would write to him
in particulars he wants to know how much
corn you raised — says he writes Joseph wants to
sell the Bears & the Polatoes they raised out of Mr
Sargents & lend him part of the money
He paid 75 cents for the Likenesses but I dont know
but he shall pay it back to him — I have furnished
money for Mary for morning shoes, $1.0 for Apron &
knit worsted Cloak or large Cape the Dr got at
Cleveland 1,50 (& she must have a pr of shoes
soon 1,50) her Books also, I don't know just how
much there will I ask tomorrow we are all well
except Nellie has a bad cold Baby is a little girl I keep
sure Nellie has a bad cold Baby is a little girl I keep
Mary weighs 21 pounds sits alone but dont creep yet
I have heard by way of Bangor the joy just now that
farmers & Lizzie have given their hearts to Christ have not them
hope but Alice has not written me a word about it &
wonder why Has she been at Mahoning — has she taken
the things that I left for her in the Bureau drawer
what have you done with Dr Page's — do with a make them
write more to you Mother

My Dear Son, jan 29th 1853

I want your thanks read "Voices of Nature" but still I don't know as you would like it in. Indeed I know you won't care much about it unless you will give considerable thought to it — But there is that & so much other excellent reading — I do grudge to have you spend so much time in singing — tho' I love singing, & think it pleasant, delightful & improving even, to the Mind — But you have so little time to read, and your "seed time" is gone. your summer partly past — the autumn of your life is near upon you — are all your habits of thinking and acting and all your knowledge of virtue holiness and heaven just as you would have them and all that you would wish them to be when you enter on the confines of Eternity. All and just such as you wish to be the Cast and Mould of your Sons & your Sons, Sons

I feel with keen regret the loss of time — tho' my opportunities have not been great yet if I had improv'd all as I might it with faithfulness & energy how much more knowledge how much more spiritual mindedness I might now have to rest upon as I go down to the valley of the Shadow of Death

O Charles do not follow my example when I have been so wanting in duty — but let go of the trifling

perishing things of this world — And dig deep and earnestly for the things that will endure the things that will bring with them peace & never ending happiness

With the arms of faith get firmer, faster hold on Him, who has said — "He that cometh unto me & will in no wise cast out" And having Him you have all, all.

I would not be understood that I think you more than most others are all absorbed in the petty cares & insignificant concerns of this life — But is not there a marvelous disproportion or inconsistency with us all in our care for things of time & sense & neglect of those that will last & will form our Characters for eternity, eternity

Feb. 15th — Mr. C. et. Everett & his wife visited here last Friday how different he appears from what he did — He was sedate and dignified but perfectly gentlemanly affable & agreeable I cannot but hope he is in some respects at least a different Character from that he was before he went away

Ehat talks some about going to Mich but perhaps he will not as Mr Haskins his brother is going to Washington in a week or two and then he can not leave the business Ehat expects to be married in April — he writes to Maria every week and she to him every week, she writes every Saturday she every Wednesday

We were very sorry that Samuel could not carry the things that we had got ready to send we've had no chance since

Anna call'd on a Lady of her acquaintance to get a Sacque pattern & she gave her the linning of a Sacque said you could cut one by it she has them by a pattern I should think it would be just the thing for a linning for Charlie's I would make it large for him the little boys here all wear them very large and loose I hope you have not already got it cut

Do write Albina to write Charles to

your Mother A. M. Metcalf

Feb 8th We are all here Mr. Rider has just arrived Mr. White Sarn's Teamster call'd this forenoon, did not bring the Cider forgot it because he had a sick man to bring — Mr French of Orrville — Sarn sorry for Charlies Boil — but hope it has got well by this time

Your Children are so liable to have bad turnouts Do I intreat you not let them eat so much greasy potato It can't be so much more work to give them bread & Milk & if they live they would be willing to thank you a thousand times as I should be glad to my parents for feeding me as they did — if they have nothing but bread & Milk for breakfast & Supper it will not hurt them if they have enough of that

All sister Converts

Warwick Sept 10th 1853

My Dear Son. I wrote to you last week but think I'll write again because I do want an answer from you directly so that I can know whether you are coming & if you are coming — when so as to make my calculations accordingly — If you don't want to come, or think it not expedient to come — you need not consider it necessary for you to, on my account for I can go back alone without any difficulty or danger I think — Tho' it might be pleasanter to have company

If any thing should prevent your coming and I do not hear from you before that time I think I shall start for home about the 25th of this month. You need not feel that it is any great affair or needs any great preparation — you can come from Bangor here in 24 hours at a cost of about $4 or $4.50 & you wont want to stay more than a week you can see all the folks you'll want to see — as long as you'll want to see them — I have been down on the Brook one day which is all I care about it is so long since I've seen 'em much & I feel so unacquainted that I dont care to stay any where except with sisters

When I came I left the Greenfield road at Grants and got into the Brattleborough Cars & came on to Northfield and Mr Parsons brought me out here you could do the same or stop at Wendell which is about as near here if I could know just when you'd come & guess I could get Mariah to go down there after you

Now do be sure to write by the very next Mail and let me know your Calculations and all about it Conclude what, and when, and how you'll do and let me know & set about it immediately

I dont think you'll want to stay more than a week so that you need not be gone more than 10 days or so from home your things at home wont get very much out of fix in that time if you cant leave them just as you would wish

Perhaps, you have written & I may receive a letter from you before you get this, but if you have written I want you should write again and by the very next Mail good bye

A. M. Metcalf

5½ × 15 = 69

19 × 5.9
14 × 1
10 × 60
5 × 15
15 × 3
7 × 9
63
15
81

Warwick Sept 19th 1853

My Dear Children,

I received your letter to day I feel very sorry you cannot conveniently come — But chiefly on your own account — I don't know as it would be consistent for you to leave home if it was I think you would enjoy it and that it would do you good — I think I can go home alone without any difficulty and I rather think that I shall start for home in about ten days from now

I am now at the good old family mansion where I was born & brought up & O how familiar and dear every spot seems to me the great rock the garden the Orchard the great Walnut trees & every foot of ground where my little bare feet us'd to run — I suppose there is no better pasture land about & yet it appears to me that one half of the surface of the great east pasture here is bare rock & yet this Farm was priced at 1930!! & the Mountain lot 320! about 8 acres are for the mountain pasture!!

Marica & her mother live here alone except the hirer a Man a part of the time. She buys & sells cattle & horses &c. & carries on all her farming business with as much judgment & discretion as a man as far as I can see She bought her a Horse not long since & this morning the said cattle Sister Hannah Ann she a little delicate old feeble looking woman does most of the housework making butter &c and she braided hats enough last year to come to 30 dollars!!

It beats all how perfectly conservatical & industrious people are here. Every thing looks just about exactly as it did forty years ago except that the rich have grown richer & the poor have disappeared [illegible] have cut up the small ones — But you can't think how lonely it seems at the house without Brother Joseph I cant be contents to stay here many days I have concluded not to go to Dunbarton & I dont think I shall go to Hopkinton So it is possible that I may be at home by about the first of Oct. If it is convenient I shall go to Milo a week or two after. Sally Cotheridge I am very glad indeed that she has been induced to [illegible] It will be a great relief to remember to forget & I suppose Jane will help him think of it & try to learn him all the can. I hope & expect that she has become a good industrious patient girl and is a great comfort to you all — I thought before I came away that she was trying to do well & we know that she can if she tries be a very capable, good girl

May God be with you & bless you and guide you in all your ways from your affectionate Mother

I intended to send this by the last Mail but we have had a very rainy time for several days & I was in no body to send I dont know but what — if I could know that you could conveniently come in a fortnight from now I should wait — But its so uncertain — I think I had better be getting home and after I get home & you get your harvesting done — you had better take a trip to Greenland & perhaps to N. York — or you can come here if I am gone home & you'll find plenty of [illegible] & cheerful

Cedar Grove Mills Feb 11th 1854

My Dear Son, I returned home yesterday Eliab came up with me and this gave me this after noon — received letters from Sonora and Antonio in ~~you~~ last Tuesday I was very much amus'd at the account of Sam's arrival there I hope he will enjoy himself & do well & you likewise. Sam's must have had rather a hard time getting there I want very much to hear more about him how he left his family &c. &c. Sister Conant wrote me that your uncle Conant had made his Will gives Sam'l 50 Dollars and Harvey all the rest it is too bad I think he is of one mind ~~I~~ I also think that he means to do just right & thinks he does in so doing His Father gave him all after giving of 3 daughters & himself & wife were sick a great while so that all was very little, & he of course thought he must do as his father did! Why dont you write more particularly about

have you, or how he may [illegible] I'd as [illegible] very Big Indy part of the country for a permanent [illegible]

what you are doing how you like your work & how you like the country how Sam'l likes & what he is doing — I am a little afraid you don't like as well as you expected tell me about it & whether Sam'l is disappointed I want to know all about how you feel — what you think & whether you are glad you went there Ethan does not feel willing I should come up in the stage though I could come more comfortably with him but it cost him some for he broke his sleigh thills which with his horse hire ranted he six or seven dollars I suppose — Mr R. K. Haskins is almost gone in consumption is not expected to live many days I fear that they are going to be rather hard with Ethan he thinks they ought to give him more because he has had all the work to do as Mr H has been sick all the time they don't seem inclined to but perhaps they'll do what is right I hope and hope

He has met with quite a loss again on the Brig Susan Duncan Percie has had another attack of the croup not so bad as before the little fellow has been nursed by Henry kept in a warm room so constantly — has never been suffered to smell the out door air half as much as he ought

I suppose Albina keeps you "posted up" in regard to things about home — I found Josie pretty sick but evedently getting better weak peevish & fretful, but has considerable appetite he coughs some yet but I think he will be pretty smart in a few days — Charlie is pretty well looks more healthy & is more fleshy than when I went away — little Henry has some cold & is cutting teeth She is too spunky to be sick — but she is on the whole rather pleasanter than she was last fall Uncle Mark has gone as I suppose you know & James does the chores at the barn probably they are not done just as you want it but I guess he is pretty faithful — we have had a long spell of very cold weather — Mercury down to 30 below 0 — 20 some days — which has made it hard for James, & the creatures at the barn too I suppose our barn is abominably cold — We shall have about two weeks more to keep — then James can get along well enough if his folks will let him stay but Mr. Rider will think he can earn considerable at home — he is ma[illegible] manly & steady than he was a year or two ago but he is a boy yet

Sabbath Eve I have been up to [illegible] sargents today we & has not [illegible] to [illegible] more bed sick he is very sick with Lung fever, She has Neuralgia in her head, Mrs. Dales was there & some other neighbors came in, & got up another bed & moved the cookstove out into the kitchen & put our open stove, that you left in ward closet, up in their room, & Mrs. Dales is going to stay and take care of them — it has been rather sickly about here some cases of scarlet fever in the last part of winter — & Measles at the village Colds & Coughs is abundance all about this a cold, hard, roughy, Country here — I suspect that James feels a little anxiety about whether is to have pay & how much; I've been thinking some of writing to his father & Mother & see what they think would be right — I don't see but we must keep him if we can at whatever price — for it is next to impossible to get a man or boy to do anything — It is rather hard times for poor folks I suppose, everything is dear Corn 1,30 Oats, 75 Flour 11. or 12,00 — wood in Bangor 5; to 6,50 — We are burning green birch — however the school will soon be done and the weather will be warmer & we shall all get along nicely — no not nicely, but comfortably I do not can see, or had we better try to do anything about getting the house painted, papered &c. &c. [illegible] Shall you be home soon enough to do it, they have not [illegible] but I suppose in May or first June [illegible] to Isaac & Antoinette & Jane [illegible] May 1st can you make it with [illegible] [illegible] thing if [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Cedar Grove Ills. March 19th, 1865

Charlie is writing to Frank just now & I must to tell you we are well and likely to "bring out" nicely. Last Sunday the snow was all of 3 feet deep on the road but 2 days of warm weather in the last week let it come — but yesterday it snowed & blew again from the north and blocked us with hard drifts

Charlie is learning to read some but it requires a fine fine coaxing & stratagem I can muster to keep up any interest in it some days he seems very much engaged & then again it is hard work — He can read of a tolerable run in two syllables and in reading words of 3 or 4 letters

He waits upon the table when there is no other man here with considerable grace & dignity — took it upon his own head — & insists upon the privilege with some pertinacity ever since Jamie went away He has split up the kindling wood at night & got ups & built the fire — with being told

Those warm days the boys marching round on the snow drifts on a pair of wooden snow shoes. Had Summer & he rigged up — Joseph got well very quick after he was sick he eats very hearty & his cheeks ready to burst out he is so fat now little Mary does not talk but can make herself understood, is very fond of her dinner chair & feeds herself at table

you say you & Bessie are writing a book will you
tell us what it is about or don't you like to I was so glad
to get your last letter you have not mentioned it. I cannot
imagine what you intend to know all about now
kind of a man he is & how he is getting on

What do you read or don't you have time to read now
of any thing — as the nights are getting to be a more
pleasant season for going out there of course you are gaining
any desire knowledge whether it is the most useful knowledge
for you is another question — however that may be I
trust you are doing some good to yourself & others

Mary Fowler was married last month to a widow lady
of 40 last 45 years old — she intends to join them anyway
one to the coast — Mr. Sargent is getting better slowly
don't sit up much yet — but are all in good health now
Ellen says she has felt healthier & stronger than usual
this winter — I told her that the care & confinement that it is to
give her fortitude perhaps, she is my chicken hearted sometimes & me will seem the more
upon her in your absence has its advantages — Fire burns
thro the fences all up the road — Jim Kenney has been out
out of sight for many weeks — How have you made out for
clothes for yourself do provide yourself with things to wear
& comfortable you ought to have carried more things & drawers enough
not to get much mending done by Nettie — but you know it is
dont be so anxious to save money as to cheat yourself in any
way a man is estimated now more by the dress he wears
you are very apt to not have enough

I shall be lonely now Bill long spring dress to me also as
Isaac & Nellie to likewise — they want to my mind I think there
next month when the roads are dusty — but this is going home & I don't like after

Friday June 9th 1854

My Dear Son Albina just had my letter from you dated 21st of May Charlie went down to the P. O. after it 2 days ago & had a letter from Anna they expect to be in Boston on the fourth of July — not be here before the second week in July probably Isaac will tell you all about us here, you cannot think or imagine how surprised & glad I was to see them at Brownville & I feel troubled too that he had such luck & had to be so delayed when he was so much for him I feel very grateful to him — We had a letter from Lucy Wednesday saying that she & Antoinette & Sam'l & the two babies & the woman to take care of them, were coming first of next week

We have sent to S. & E. for flour, Molasses, tea, Coffee, Sugar, Spices, fixings for the room, in fine for whatever they think we need

The water has been up twice over the intervale as Isaac will tell you so that Walter is rather late about the planting — and yesterday we had another smart rain the ground where the corn has just been planted some of it is under water it came up so as to stop them before they got it quite all planted to day

The trees & the grass have grown very surprising considerable grass was winter killed but not as it is not. It looks finely the lower north of the house looks beautifully — the carrots, beets Turnips, not sow'd yet — it has been so wet & Walter is not very engaged & there is many Chores to do you know, when I got home from Brownville I advis'd to have some help and I have made out to get George Hastings, half a month for $ 20 Dollars — there will be work on the road you know sheep not washed or sheared yet I have just ask'd him if he should like to stay here all summer if you want him, he said he would

Walter wants you should come home before Haying as—
(tho' he is a smart hand to Mow they say if he is not that
but this side is lame & he cant pitch hay or mow much, I
suppose—I suppose you are earning more wages than the
hire of a good smart man would be here (if one could be
obtained)—perhaps it would be dear or let out the hay but
you know the Barn needs fixing or it will not secure the
hay—& no one can do your work to just as good advantage
as you can yourself—Tho' Walter seems interested & careful
about every thing as if it was his own & gets along nicely
& if he cant do so much in a day it seems 50 per cent better
than the hired men we have usually had seems more like one of
our folks

I feel afraid Isaac will work too hard do warn him
& charge him to be careful of his health he looks very
different from what he did to—and do be careful of your
self and come away before you get the "Shakes"

It is very very hard for Charlie to learn to read I get
quite discouraged sometimes & he does quite he has not
tried much this 3 or 4 weeks past he had rather do any
thing than look in a book—but feels very sensibly that
he ought to—I went out in the bath room last night & he
was sitting alone on the floor by the stove looking very sad
I told him he'd better go to bed—he said he did not want
to grow any bigger I ask'd him why? he answered because
he did not learn. he did'nt want to grow bigger if he
could learn but he is going to school next week
perhaps he'll take a new start then

I shall direct this to Isaac as perhaps it may not
get there till you have started for home

If you come home to do your Haying you'll get here
before Anna comes

June 10th

To Charles Thursday July 21st 54

I must scribble a letter tho' there seems to be no need as Gillman is coming away letter there has been very fine weather for two weeks past we have had nobody at work but George alone till till yesterday & today have — Mowers has been here — they have been getting the thinnest of the grass on the field north of the house the grass is very thick & good & ought to have been cut this week so Walter says — expects to have 3 hands next week I hope it will not be bad weather when they get in to the thick clover — Walter feeds the pigs milks the cows does chores about house of which there is always a plenty you know a good many things that Jane or somebody might do if she was here — rides down to the P. O. &c &c but says he feels a little uneasy because he wants to go to the Sea shore for his health & look about to see if he can get in to something he can do but says he will stay till after Haying if nothing happens — & then perhaps George can get along alone he is engaged till harvesting is done at $1½ by the month — you need not expect all will go on just as if you were there & that is not all somehow if you know the letters a thing & poor efficiently the grey he coughs, with have the heaves or die in consumption before next autumn is out perhaps I do not know it may not be best to worry them till the weather is cooler. he has been bled last spring and [illegible] & dosed Mr Partridge spares no pains he has any amount of every thing put into his mouth & nose and ears &c &c. — Mr Bell & wife & daughter came last yesterday have gone to Brownville — have gone to Pittsfield they expect to return to Bangor next Wednesday he is a fine man have rather an extensive practice & is [illegible] heard calm mate [illegible] sister that the patient & [illegible] in the journal

So Isaac a letter from you & one from Charley this evening dated the 4th & 6th & both with Sabra & the baby Left Bangor for Portland last Monday a.m. Say. She did not mean to keep Sabra only till she got here and I am glad I did not exactly like her I can't know but the moment will but I did not quite like her treatment of the dear little Mayo Lucy & me Hattie got quite disgusted with her in some other respects & hope & trust that Hattie will have well enough to take care of him herself now he goes alone it will be so much better for him & eventually easier better for her — by the way I differ from you I must not have his clothes tight in the neck. His throat & lungs need the good fresh air I must & thought that was your theory and practice. Oh how I do long to have him all to myself a while — While there at Dunbarton I should admire to let him run in the weather it is fine out doors & play in the dirt bare headed & bare foot only when letting the head should not the exposure to a current of cold air — but here may have something on to this fierce & fickle handy thought of writing my when I began

Saturday August 26th 1854

Dear Sabbina I must tell you the joyful news how that Minnie has a little Daughter born this morning ½ o'clock — was taken sick about one o'clock in the night had a pretty comfortable time is quite easy & happy now's baby weighs 7 lbs — Lucy has written Minnie to this time — Bessie & Mattie is better yesterday & today — you would hardly know him he is so poor & pale his little legs look like little Commodick weighs 18½ lbs 6 less than he did 6 months ago — Lucy has a long letter written a letter to Emma & to Nellie — Ida Matt write to Charles & Isaac — and to Almeda

I feel troubled & distressed at your decision about Charles but do my Daughter try to feel that it is all right & trust — & trust on yet that it will be so — He can enable you to feel reconciled and happy under any circumstances — Put your trust & confidence in Him who is always near & never fails to attend to the wants of his children — There surely is great comfort under any the most trying circumstances in thinking of & trusting in the goodness of God

Lucy talks about that if Bessie gets better before the weather gets too cold & if & if &c. That she & I had better go to Dunbarton this fall — but it is not very likely

Had n't you better come down here & make a visit I don't

why you could perhaps your father or somebody may be coming so that you could save a part of the expense but if not you can come on the stage it is not much it will do you more good than the trouble & cost

Much love to Walter & Sally & George and all the folks. Do write again soon.

It is worth a great deal to have such a girl as Lucy has got not only capable & smart to work but what is more is so kind hearted & cheerful & good natured ——— but we dont know how long it will last

Sabbath morning. Sam'l Ebal & Lucy are gone to meeting Mariah says the feels well enough to come down stairs the weather is very smart & mild. She thinks that she has received very great benefit from bathing in cold water ——— but not quite enough to be pleasant She has taken six baths almost every day till she was sick means to again & then in a day or two

I went to meeting all day last Sabbath heard Mr. Adams of New Jersey in the forenoon & Mr. Stephenson in the afternoon

Today have heard an excellent sermon by Dr Clark of Hartford from Matth. 5th 4 he made it out that all sorrow & grief is the fruit of sin ——— And the thought came to me ——— is not Allens present distress & sorrow the fruit of setting her affections so much things of earth thinking more of Charles than of Him who claims the whole heart ——— and will not permit his own dear Children to set anything else above him in their affections ——— but will send trials of some sort to wean them back to himself the fountain of all good & all

happiness — He can and will always remove our trials or make us to be reconciled to them if we only ask him aright — ask in faith — What is there in all the world like prayer — may my Daughters pray for a Spirit of prayer — And your grief that seems almost unbearable may prove to be one of the greatest of blessings by bringing you nearer — to the great fountain of all blessedness I intended to send this this morning but forgot it.

Maria has a Mrs. Bailey for a nurse a nice kinds hearted widow woman I should think 45 or 50 years old and if you want to see her look at your Mother her form and all her ways are just like your Mothers we all like her very much — Lucy would be glad to have you send her a bucket of Eggs ~~if you can~~ But Sam'l says it is not best because Mr. Gould don't love to be bothered with hens — But you could pack a lot so that they would keep — & perhaps Mr. Livermore will be coming — Sam'l brought home a bucket of Eggs last week & about half are rotten

Tues. morning Aug. 29 —

Mother finished her writing here last night. She did not feel very well, went up stairs to bed, was taken with violent pain in her bowels, vomiting and purging, — had twelve very profuse discharges, almost like clear water, (found right away from her,) in two hours after she was taken — She was very cold, had some cramp in her feet. Sam went for Dr. between 11 and 12 o'clock, Elijah flew up and down stairs waiting upon her and

doing everything better than a woman could. He got
from one fine recitations, a jug of hot water and
flannel & his is to, & mustn't cry, and then in less than
time before he said for her mamma — meanwhile
Percie was restless, moaning & crying, so I could
only attend to him, and "Energine" him up
in Virginia's room, & the nurse could her hands
full. Brother is relieved of her Chills as much as
attack, and has much better this morning —
the only danger now is of fever. She is very weak &
pale. While Percie sleeps, I keep the flies off &
write — he keeps about so I better undress
& rest the night. Three warm days & cool nights
are very good for bowel complaints. For myself,
if all the rest were well, I should be glad, or at
least give myself up to rest & recruit. Percie
is first as a mercy as can be. I do not doubt he
will be down stairs in less than a fortnight, as
just as happy as ever you were in your life — says she
would go it all over again in pain, or hard as
the baby was born, in the midst of horrors, & then. Even it
was nothing to what she expected! Can't you follow
the example of the noble woman who bravely the cruel
printer letter, & send a really encouraging epistle
to Charlie? Isn't it a good time to write — to — any.

Bangor Sept. 9th 1864

Dear Ellen

I expected to have got a letter from you Wednesday. I do think a good deal about home & want to know all how you are getting along — How is Walters health now? does George stay there all the time? — has Jane gone to Brownville & Sally come back? — Are you likely to have any harvesting to do? in some places the Corn potatoes &c. are all entirely cut off & the pasture so wholly dried up that they have to feed Cattle at their barns. As they say I hope it is not so bad on the intervale — If Charles stays till towards Spring you will need to get a cookstove before he comes home & take care & and get up plenty of wood early in the season

Does Walter think any of taking the farm next year if C. wants to let it — Charles wrote to Eliot that he thought it might be best not to sell the wool but pack it away & keep it till another year, unless the price comes up

Lucy says you had better come here soon — before cold weather & that Charlie had better come as soon as E. & wife move away which will be in a few weeks if she gets along as smart as she has done they have hir'd a house & are now playing rent for it probably by the first part of Oct — when Charlie comes you had perhaps send what of corn & other clothes that he has — but if he is to have any new ones have 'em made here — Send the old cloak that was James & see can make it — his old boots would do to wear at home but not to go in. I have perhaps you will fix 'em up & save 'em for Josie or give 'em away

we have a letter from Charles & Isaac a day or two since - will send
C's & would Isaac's but it would be double postage.

I think I will take off half the sheet & send it
there is not much in the other half only he says
Charles very deliberately & understandingly made
up his mind that he was doing best to stay
here — the advantages here greater than the
disadvantages he concluded to stay and
wisely shakes to it till he sees some cause
to decide differently — He says he feels very
bad when he thinks of home & the children
but that he tells them to think of going to
California or to Sea — and Charles acknowl-
edges that even that is a great deal better
than having no wife & children — Says his
own health is excellent even the drawth of this
summer which is very extraordinary does not af-
fect him — that he has to rode on the dust
by day & by night but Charles makes on the
thunder there he is not exposed at all — he thinks
of C's Father's coming home & going back &
should not think that would be handy with
while as it would be more likely to give him
the ague — but let us hope for the best &
will all be right and best and trust it
There are not feel anxious about it

I've been so tried without a letter that I begin to think I must have a cold in both ears myself.

Friday Sept 22nd

I am thinking I feel so anxious about Mary and you that I can think of nothing else so I'll begin to write before you get home even — It seems as if I could not wait till to-morrow night before hearing from you I am afraid you will get back carrying Mary ill in your arms

I got so tired and nervous yesterday that I even had a cry myself after I went to bed I had no letter either & I was sure into your Chamber — must have asked 1 gal 6 times about Mary being sick & Charles gone &c. &c. &c.

Patience however — has a good night & all looks bright & hopeful this morning so I will wait till I hear and pray you will take the steamer to-morrow but let us get your dear feet

Last evening 10 o'clock has just got in a bit of letter from Ja to let us hear that you got home safe. I see just as it may suit you to be at Hampstead but must wait & see how Mary is on Saturday before we can know whether she is sick or not — I shall write again before you get this & you will then hear but I hope you'll have a letter one next from you come — Dearie was sure to have many letters but I'm very glad here is one & grateful & hopeful may hungry but in fair health

Yours ever sincerely

Tuesday evening I have just got your letter & Charlie's. I am very glad to hear that Mary is better. hope she will be really well by the time you get this —— You tell of going to Charleston & Thereby hangs a tale. I suppose it would be quite as easy for you to get it fine enough but I don't see how you can with any means you have there & it might do injury if you could get it fine enough but I don't see how you can with any means you have there & it might do injury as fine as possible or it might do injury

The P.M. was in today he thinks there is nothing wrong with Ellen has got a very bad cold has not been able to do any thing since Sunday morning has been taking aconetic & Squaw. She will be better tomorrow. —— Uncle Charles [illegible] yesterday & expect him back Saturday & Hattie & Lizzie with him — If we are all well they'll [illegible] next week & Squaw —— Better than Charlie by the first of the week after perhaps.

Uncle Charles has concluded on coming right home it seems — Perhaps it may be all for the best — but I think it very probable that he will be negotiating it all winter. If he gets Mary & the boys to [illegible] without being sick I am sure I shall be glad to have him at home but I think we have not much reason to think he will. but let us hope & trust that all will be well

Love to Charles & Lizzy & all the folks

from your affectionate mother

I can't see why you can't write a few lines to Ellen & Mary every day & send them in a letter from Mary by mail. I am sure it would be much better than waiting for [illegible]

let him take Comforter & Mittens for it will be cold & he'll want to be out a good deal
Please send my Old Shawl

Bangor Thursday Oct. 12th /54

My Dear Daughter

Mr. Rider has just gone from here to Dr. McKeens to have his face operated upon we cant but feel very much for him Almeda feels very bad tho' they both feel very glad he came Dr. McKeen a short time since performed a similar operation, only worse I guess he understands it thoroughly he said it would take no more than 2 or 3 minutes to cut it out, & get it all done up—

Why did'nt you send Charlie — I ask'd S. Le what I should say to you about his coming Sam'l said tell her we've been expecting him every Mail & all disappointed that he did not come & if you were willing he should come send him right along — I expect his habits have been such in regard to doing pretty much as he had a mind to that he would require some one and attention but I think it would be a great benefit to him to be here a while — I dont think that his Father will be home till December

We had a Letter from Isaac yesterday dated Oct. 10th in which he says that he is expecting to get through there by the 1st of Dec. if so I thought it most likely they would come home together

Send Charlie the Overcoat the Comforter & Mittens you said not to send him last week as he is so delicate that he might along Saturday if you can, if not Tuesday he will be here — Send them right along if you can, if not Tuesday Jessie is getting along nicely has gain'd 2 pounds

Mrs C. W. Rich

Nilo

Bangor Oct. 29th / 54

Dear Albina

I have just received your letter with the verses — Please inform me whether you got my two last letters one sent to Atwoods which the rest to Heathers and one from me & Lucy sent by Mr. Fuller it was tied up with a bunch of letters with a bunch of 20 envelopes also 2 or 3 other bundles & put in your little red wooden pail & left probably at your Fathers — I conclude that by some unfortunate mistake you have not got them or you certainly have sent Charlie — but the time is past & before it is hardly worth while to have him come at all this winter now certainly not unless he can come right off this week — it seems rather unfortunate and must be a great trial that he has not been here these 5 or 6 weeks while they would

have been glad to have seen and
would have had over him with
so much care and attention to do
him good & it certainly would have
been a great loss to him
we have wondered and wondered
why you did not send him — I have
felt that instead of receiving great
benefit — he has been all this fall
very unfavorably situated — having
his own head so much & I am very
much afraid that he is getting to
be a great ignorant rude boy
If he is not well instructed and
gets any naughty habits it will
be much harder learning the
others to do right
If by good fortune you should get this
tomorrow and can send Charlie this
week perhaps you had better send
him — I really think it a great
loss to him & to his parents that
he has not been here this fall — I
could not tell whether they will want him
in the winter

I suppose Walter could not earn
near so much on his farm besides
paying his board as he will expect of
Charles I should think he would have
her to stay I hope Charles will be
home soon but I have always
thought that he would stay till
they get done there which Isaac
says will be on December the hopes
by the first of the month
I hope Walter has rid the steers
some & got them handy — why
did nt they keep the oxen longer
did they not want them to plow
& get wood &c. &c.

Please write soon & say whether
you get our letters
I am staying with Ebals wife
while her sister is gone & Ebals is
going to Canton tomorrow the baby
grows nicely — Darius is growing
strong and fat he walks all about
the house
your affectionate Mother

Bangor Nov. 14th 54

My Dear Darcy Mo

I suppose you are busy now a days Making Shirts & knitting Stockings for Charles 3 or 4 weeks will soon pass away when we hope he will be at home

I suppose he has written to you about the dreadful Accident they have had there — How Shocking it must have been — Nothing compar'd with many other R. R. accidents but Isaacs coming so near being one of the victims and seeing so directly all about it affected me more than others that I have heard of where there were many more lives lost

If you can't send me some yarn I could knit some Stockings for Charles as well as not — Lucy & I both spoke of it & intended to write to you that she borrow'd a little girls coat to make Percies by & behold it was made just like Mary's little blue one a pretty large yoke & plaited sown in with a belt round and a large Cape little Children from a year old to Charles age all wear large Capes to their Cloaks whatever the form of the Cloak may be — I hope you have not alter'd Marys for it is exactly in fashion & it would be a good deal of work to fix it over

Percie has just got one more eye tooth thro'
has got two now the others swelld a good deal - Lucy
is very miserable a few days past with the back
ache went a shopping and got too much tir'd
she is so apt to do too much before she is aware
of it that I dont know as she will ever get well
Charlie is a very good boy has nothing to make him
any other way —— Charlie has been scribbling
on a piece of paper what he calls a letter but
he thought you could not read it - so I wrote it off
just as he told me —— He has learn'd the way
down to his Uncle Elias has gone down there
now of an errand

Charlie came of his own accord the other day & wanted
to write a letter to Mother, so Mother helped him.
He was going to begin with, Allmira, but Mother
told him how. This is exactly as he told it over: "Dear
Mother, Uncle Samuel has got me some new books. I
tie up the cow every day & feed her and clean out the
barn. How do you get along now-a-days without me? How
does Joseph get along & how does Nancy do? Does she
have spells now? (Meaning sick spells) Percie has got
blocks a whole lot, some with pictures on them and
I play with them." What a fine letter and what
a dear day after it — With love, Lucie L. Lamb

Jan 15th 1855

My Dear Children

We have a letter from Isaac dated 9th Jan. He and his expect to be here in two or 3 weeks — Is Mary going to visit her friends

I have forgotten every time to ask you Albina whether you have seen my black fur Tippit I suppose I wore it home last winter but I have tried & try'd to recollect about it but I cant remember anything when I had it last or where I put it I did not think of it when I left home I wonder why I did not

Charlie's little collars were left here & I'd many carelessness & I intended to tell you that Sam & I had your Chickens & sold 'em at the Store and gave Charlie Credit for them. What are you & Charles reading now a days or dont you have time to read anything

- Lucy you know got very much run down last summer I thought she would recruit again as Dexter got better & the cold weather came & she has some but she is not near as strong as she was a year ago cannot bear near as much fatigue or exposure & Dexter tho' he grows fat & large does not seem to be quite well — He has never been "just right" in his bowels since he was sick.

What a blessing it is to enjoy good health are you & Sam thankful enough. Maria has had a very bad cold and her baby too — We had a letter from Anna last Saturday She is well & happy as ever every time she writes she tells about having company — Some half dozen folks to stay several weeks or just had a party or some such thing

I wish you would write more and oftener I want to know how you are all getting along do write more about the Children you say little Wm frets & whines one thing that I would do is try to make her think she is a good pleasant child — I imagine that she has a strong impression (perhaps too strong ever to be removed) that she is a naughty girl — If she has it will have a great tendency to make her so — She is a very affectionate child & I believe she may become mild and pleasant

It is dreadful for Children to be in the habit of fretting & scolding at each other. I would reprove it more severely than the doing of any mischief —— I think it has a bad effect on their whole life it is so much better to take things easy — to be always thankful & happy

O if I could only do as well as I can say what an example I should be for others to follow but Alas!!

I write chiefly for the sake of getting letters from you don't disappoint me it will do you good as well as me

Bangor Nov. 17 /55

My Dear Children

If this reaches you in season i.e. before the Bundle is sent — I want you to send the pieces of my all wool De laine dress I very carelessly forgot 'em they are I think in the upper drawer of the bed Chest — ~~on the~~ at the left hand end of the drawer — If not there look in the Middle drawer — you may send also an old green velvet bag — which is also in the upper drawer — when I came away I did not think of my Cloak Sleeves at all — I usually have kept them pinned on to my Cloak — But they were not on the Cloak when I got here — perhaps I have lost 'em no great matter if I did If you see them there please buy them up — I do not want them sent

I am sorry I had to leave that Chest & drawers so stirr'd up & out of fix — but let them remain if I live to go home again I can fix 'em then

I hope Mrs. S will send my little eye salve box as I should like to know just what to enquire for if I want to get more

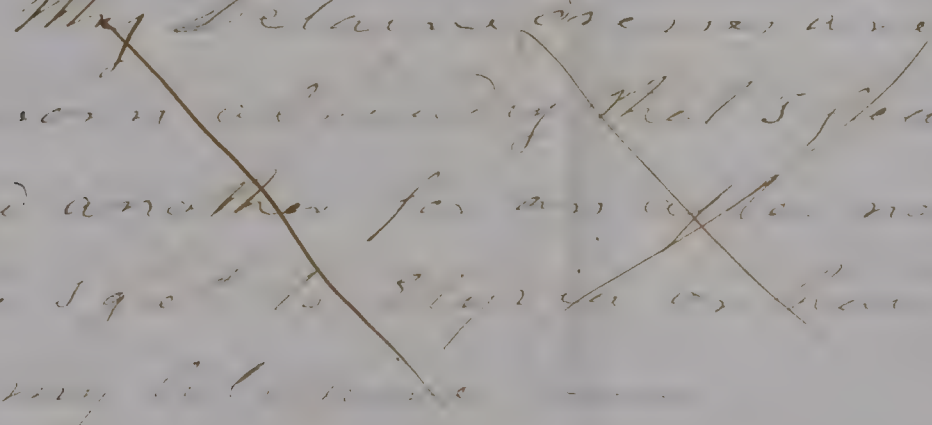
Much love to ye all from your Mother

I know I shall want the pieces of dress but I suppose its not worth while to send 'em if you have already sent the other things

I did not discover that I had not got my
Letters till yesterday

Isaac talks some of going round to
Bradford on his way to call
on Joseph Rhoads, & perhaps to
visit — I am expecting to start next
Monday but Isaac keeps planning — he
is busying in preparations getting wood
&c. He says he has been married
some time & got quite a family of
children & has never made them
a visit before &c. — I want to go I sup-
pose if I insist upon it but it wants
the more convenient for him to stay a
week or two longer or till it comes
sleighing so that we can get there with
ease I don't see how it can be
but they seem to have very comfortable
& luxury that one can't expect in
the country &c. It is also an item
of price — large cottage house well
furnished tho' not in the newest style
yet neat comfortable & convenient in
every part (necessary buildings &c.

A great many people have left off to hope their company much to Mattie & the rest. It is very pleasant place here — much more so than I expected & think it must be delightful in the summer



We [illegible] to-morrow that Stevens shall read another for an extra name to [illegible] & sign or have the first one rubbed out —

The people about here & [illegible] seem pious & the ingathering [illegible] will be [illegible] probably like other places of the kind & commenced

We have prayer meeting every evening & [illegible] from here — also one in the Parlor & study the same evening [illegible] "family prayer meeting" a few [illegible] people have kept it up constantly for 30 years, tho' [illegible] I have not been to attend Dominie often [illegible] with them [illegible]

Dec. 17. 1855

Dear Sister Kate

I this day send to you the December Number of Putnam's Magazine. The other Numbers of the Vol. I shall send with your Sister's Letter. I prefer to send them thus.

Please read this, and then if not too much trouble to you lay the 6th Vol. together, and say the price, and it will be sent. Mrs [illegible] wishes to know [illegible]

Do you hear from H. H.?

Please write to us.

[illegible] other interesting [illegible] to us [illegible] matters.

Probably

This is the first intimation received

Willis Putnam & Nicholas Stevens

[illegible] years ago the [illegible]
hours they have grown beautifully
they had with their little hands [illegible]
[illegible] They
stay on the lounge by the hour at
a time & hardly move at all

What a [illegible] of [illegible] which
toilets out at the Palaces has no
manure except from one horse
he says the clear profit last year
was 60 dollars — He does no work at
all himself.

Isaac & Nettie are regularly keeping
house for [illegible] N. H. [illegible]
H. [illegible]

The Lord is Not the Meaning of God
made Flesh. 2 What [illegible] letters
in [illegible] or Communities yet along
the [illegible] or their only Sons
[illegible] exemplified here — There
are about 60 inhabitants in this
town & the yearly Contributions
to [illegible] Objects are 200, a

years besides supporting a Minister
The people are mostly farmers no
[illegible] of manufacturing one in
town there is not even a gunsmith
in the land tho' good perhaps,
is certainly very rocky & hard to
cultivate & yet the people appear
not only well off, but rich
They have a contribution regularly
every 2 months in support of six
different benevolent societies and
besides one as a people tho' sisters
for it — they have a prayer
meeting every Tuesday in the week
a few steps from here — besides
which a few devoted Christians
have kept up a meeting one evening
in the week in the first part of
Study (as steadily for over 30 years
their custom is always to have 3
prayers one for themselves one
families one for the Church &
people of the town & one for the
Meeting

~~your Respectfully~~

Ruffalo Jan. 9th 1856

My Dear Son, I suppose you would like to know something of our whereabouts well here we are & have been for the last 24 hours — we started from Dunbarton on the 2nd Mr. Putnam carried us to Concord in his Covered Sleigh — we took the Cars for White River junction got a long 5 or 6 miles To Fisherville when our axeltree broke & we had to wait while they sent back to Concord after another Engine & that made us behind time so that we had to stop from 4 o'clock P.M. till the next morn at White River junction waiting for a train then we came on to Brattleboro & stopt thro' Windsor, Bellows Falls & so on till next morning with J. A. Stevens then down to Northfield — took dinner at Mr. Parsons' (Sister Hannah & Maria are there you know) then Isaac got a horse & Covered sleigh & carried me out to Sister Conants staid one night — saw Sister Esther there we called 10 minutes at Mr. Russells and about 20 minutes at Brother Williams's (he too sick with a cold to go out) then back to

Northfield & spent the Sabbath there
monday morning call'd on Sidelee
a few minutes on our way to the
cars at Vernon — & went on to Albany
by way of Springfield — at the Delavan house
Soame came near very near losing his
monday night
life but by a most merciful interpo
sition of Providence we are yet alive.
By reason of the violence of the storm
the Coal gas settled down the chimney
(fires stopped with snow.)
in his room — Besides the doors which
open'd into our rooms from the Hall
which were both lock'd inside there
happen'd to be one (a door) between his chamb
er & mine — I did'nt get asleep till one
o'clock when my room seem'd so hot
& close I opened the door into his &
found him laid on the floor near the
door without sense or motion I suc-
ceeded in getting him up opened the
doors & rung the bell for help got up
the chief keeper & the boys got so as to
speak but had no memory or conscious
ness of any thing — it was nearly five

hours before he could understand or
comprehend his situation you can imagine better than I can tell what
my distress was all this while
when he got so as to talk he would
half speak his words or begin to speak
one thing & say another — would keep
saying what is the matter Mother (&
sometimes call me Emma) what has
happened to you — what is it &c.
I thought of Paralasis, of every thing
dreadful — of his wife, & Children, of my
utter helplessness — I can't write it
if ever I see you I'll tell you — He got
better but had a dreadful head ache
however he slept a little & got so that
we started for Buffalo tuesday got
here in the night — & here we are 2
o'clock thursday 10th the storm is so
bad — Cars from Cleaveland just
got here been 2 days from there
There are hundreds of Passengers here
at this Hotel I don't know how many at
other Places waiting — 4 or 5 Car loads

(in which were 30 or 40 little children)
loaded with hundreds of green people
started off this morning and had to
come back again Engines sent on
from here to pull em back out of
the snow — Several car loads all
night Jan 17th Elysia well here
we are safe & sound in comfortably
comfortable comfortable & elegant house
we started from Buffalo yesterday
morning 7 o'clock & arrived last night
having been then from Tuesday night
till Friday morning Anna & Fan
formerly are all well except little
Libby eyes — I feel some fatigue &
headache but on the whole pretty com-
fortable & long much at home consider-
ing my little Libby wants to be kissing me
ever so much — Miss Woodbridge
still here has been quite a help & comfort
to Anna — has now begun a school and
boards here

This letter is so mixed up I dont know
as you can find out what it all means —
But one thing you cannot fail to know
i e how much cause we have for gratitude
I am sure I never an hundredth part so
thankful for sleep or quiet rest as for my
unrest on monday night — If I had slept
or if I had not happened my door I have
would in all probability been a dead corpse
in the morning — It almost makes me
shudder when I think of that awful

Elyria Feb 21 1836

I have not been much with my own eyes of late out of the country it has been so cold & snowy — But I believe it is a very desirable place to live in. The Dr says if he was you he would sell out for what he could get. Thinks you could better yourself by taking a farm here. Judge Hamilton who lives in this village has a house & garden & owns no other land. — Hines land of Judge Ely carries on considerable farming & supports a family & makes money — The Dr says he could get chances enough for you to take a farm but that you had better sell your farm before you leave it he thinks that you could buy for [hundred] in cash for 12 00 dollars what would yield you more profit than your farm does — But the main thing is society & literary and religious privileges — you can by great care & pains do considerable in the way of forming the minds of the children but after all they will be very much like the children they associate with — It makes me feel bad, how can they but be coarse rude uncultivated & boorish instead of that refined, amiable, well bred Christians

that we would wish them to be — It is true they may possibly become Christians where they are but are they most likely to — I don't know any thing about it but it seems to me as likely that Isaac will settle down somewhere this Spring as that he will go to Rail Reading I wish you & he could buy together somewhere here — i.e if it is best for you to think of ever leaving Milo — whether it is best or not I cannot say but it certainly is time you had your mind fully made up on the subject — To look at it in one very important point of view it don't seem of much consequence where we are — we have but little time to stay it is not so much matter where we are if we only do our duty — I hope you will try this Spring to get settled in your own mind — in the first place think it over and see if you cannot feel satisfied & fully contented to live & die where you are & leave it to your Children to hunt them a[illegible] where whether they should want to — If you can content yourself fully & entirely Let that be it — & bend all your energies to making your condition & circumstances as comfortable &

desirable as you can — If you cannot & you mean to get away sometime at any rate — then I would advertise the farm & make every exertion to arrange your matters so as to bring it about in the shortest time you can - You have got to be too old to be years making up your mind on such a subject — I am glad all things considered that you do not send the boys to school & yet how much they need to be in a good school — Tho' Anna says ~~don't~~ in regard to Charley's reading — don't worry about it if he don't ~~learn~~ to read yet awhile he'll learn something else — But I would be careful not to get him discouraged & thinking himself very dull for with his peculiar disposition it will prevent his trying to do any thing — Commendation if you can only make him feel that he deserves it will do great things for him has Josie got so as to read some & does Mary know all her letters

I wish you could hear the Dr's prayers I never heard any minister more able, earnest, Spiritual simple & various I do think he is one of the best of men ——— just after reading in the Bible every morning each of us repeats a verse in the Bible I have often thought of it & wish'd you would learn your Children so It might be a great blessing to them if you would constantly require them to you could easily learn them think about your work to repeat some sentence no matter how short at first ——— as love another ——— Children obey your Parents ——— ever so little of good learnd & repeated would furnish great results in time

Tell the Children I think of them very often & want they should be very good Children and not forget the Grandmother that loves them all very much God bless you all and keep you from every evil A. M. H.

Dear folks at "home" March 18th 56

I have just received your good letters & thank you very much am very glad to hear any thing you can tell me about your selves notwithstanding it makes me want to be with you

And so you have got "Homes" how do you like it I believe it is thought pretty favorably of we have seen 15 or 20 Notices of the Book in different Newspapers which most all of them speak well of it some very well — Don't look upon it as a narrative of facts, as I fear you will be a little likely to do, for it is not — It is only a story with facts enough to build it on — But whatever you think of it say nothing about it here at work not to your nearest friends — as to your father Metcalfe's family or any body else or you will not hardly forgive me if you do — (— & of course you will not let any body see my letters I think more minute on reading your letters to Walter & Theresa than so much as we did) — I will send you one or two slips cut from the papers one from the Chicago Congregational Herald the other The Evangelist I should like to have you save them as to any profit of the Book if there is any it will belong to the Publishers almost entirely

as to the Book I've more respect for it & appreciate the kindness in the matter but we must remember the design

I should think it a great deal better Country about here for farming than it can be in Maine
Tis often the case however it is generally the case that here people are plowing & sowing in march but this
year the snow covers all the ground & has since Christmas
it is warm & thawing to day & probably the snow will
soon be gone. The farmers say that Cattle have wintered
better look better & at less expense because of the steady
weather tho' cold tis a great deal better than frequent
rains & bare ground as is usual here. Such good sleigh
ing is such a rarity in this region that folks have
made great account of it in the way of sleigh rides
in one instance some ways west of here between 6 & 7
hundred people in one company & nine big about an
hundred persons on horse back to escort them on to
the town where they were going ——— They had what they
call'd a leap year Ball at the Beebe house close
by here the Company coming from one of the adjoining
Towns — got up by Ladies they ordered all the arrange
ments about it paid all the cost &c. The young ladies
invited the married men, the married ladies the
young men — We have heard of a great many parties
going out from this town — But we can say none of
these things ——— Notwithstanding Cupid has been

since I have been here I invited parties the last one the Minister The Mayor, the judge, Member of Congress the Elite to the number of 35 or 40 The Tea consisted Oyster Soup — Biscuit & butter, cold Meat (cut them as a wafer) Cheese pickles, currant jelly & Cake in variety & abundance a very pleasant time - good pleasant people Anna & the Dr seem to be liked & looked up to by all the people around — All they treat me with marked respect & sympathy for their sake — the custom here is to invite families parents & children together one German Lady highly educated but could speak very little Eng- lish her name Miss Eichradt — Hattie's Music teacher is a Miss Evans an English Lady She comes once a week stays one hour She has between 20 & 30 other scholars has 8 or 10 dollars for 24 lessons — Hattie practises on the Piano about 3 hours a day I told Anna that it would be better for her to be washing dishes learning to do house work — She says she knows it would but she had begun 3 years ago & Custom must rule — I just enquired of the Dr the price of land & what he says all the way from 10 to 50 dollars an acre according to the location — & that frequently there are farms to be sold old men that have got rich & are giving up business — I suppose the

are chances almost every where to buy good farms
every now and then if a body has money enough
& have no doubt that the Dr Could & would help us
hire a good farm for you that would be advantageous
& profitable if you want one & he could know
just what you want or you could come here & look about
here somewhere & see if you are If But the thing is you
don't know that you want to & probably will not know
till the time is past for doing it if you show a want
to your uncle Gordon upon so you know — Besides
it does seem that you have somehow mistaken your
position that you naturally belong to a different
grade from Mr D Mrs D & many of the folks
about you — that you ought to have been somewhat
different from what you are in mind & manners &c
& the more I see of society the more I am convinced
of it — But it is late in the day now & if you
can be content to live along in the same way and
if your Children will be content to do the same it
is all well — Provided that you can render up
your account at last with joy & not with grief
But the higher our aims are the greater our efforts
to be good and do good the greater chance for happiness
here & hereafter much love to the Children
and all of you from your Mother

I don't know when I shall come but I expect Anna will go with me and Jean in March or April I don't know when I shall come but I expect Anna will go with me and Jean in March or April I don't know when I shall come but I expect Anna will go with me and Jean in March or April

Dec 5th 1916

Hy Dear Son,

you want to know about the country pick up a book it Says

Small Farms under Cultivation can be bought for 1 or 2 thousand dollars — or from 10 to 50 dollars an acre unimproved for considerable less — More sheep go per here & Ohio would bring a greater price than any other product is raising Sheep & Cattle than grain The one man can take care of 20 acres of corn they just run a cultivator through it not here it at all Many farmers in this country give their attention wholly to making Cheese keep a great lot of cows the men make the cheese and sell it off every Saturday night [illegible] upon boxes at 16 or 17 cents per lb all cash Cheese weighing from 50 to 100 lbs Timber — wood is of course growing very valuable but the Dr. buys his wood for 1,50 a cord this year

He says if you were here with 1000, you could make your self better off in 5 years than you can where you are now — When the snow is all gone & the warm weather comes I expect to ride round the country some for the Dr. keeps a very fine horse & it is Anna's delight to be out in the air — the Dr don't go out when it is cold unless it is necessary he likes to have a warm room & stay in it — But Anna walks out every day almost Cold or Storm it makes not much difference Says she can't feel lively & invigorated without the out door air — We have not heard anything from Alameda since the last time nor anything from Bangor for more than a Month — I do wish to see you and often it will benefit you as well as me / it is not decided yet but it is possible that Anna will go home with me when I go & stay a few weeks

Tell the boys there was a gentleman named here (where had our large company) who was not as tall as Joseph he was as neat & genteel in his appearance has a mill farm & stock about as large as others, has taught school — been to California & all round the country is a person of good understanding & good education is now employ'd in the Toronto Bank in this place of which the Dr. is President he is very agreeable & pleasant in conversation but he talks so funny with a little short hand & when he sits himself back in a chair his little feet stick right out straight — But no one who has any respect for themselves would suffer themselves to laugh at him

March 30 The weather here remains cold yet the snow is not quite gone whereas it is common for Farmers to get their Sowing of Grain done by this time — But I have not known much about the cold weather for the house is warmed by a Furnace you know a Register where the heat comes up in 6 different rooms so that all the rooms & the Chambers are warm — I intended to write with a letter to Charles & Joseph this time but can't now I am very glad Joseph is going to be good as long as he lives & I dare say Charles means to be as good as he. I want they should let me know just how many lambs & calves and how many bushels of Oats & of Oats & Peas — & more than that I want very much that they should be sure to learn something new just every day — — & I do daily grieve about you my dear Dora & Albina, to think that you shut up there with almost no chance for your minds to grow & expand & if they don't they must be going down towards stupidity & ignorance — your natural powers of mind for advancement only if only brought into use shut up as it were in darkness. O how I wish you could have the privilege of hearing such preaching as we have had

I send you a slip cut from an Elgin paper the Presbytery is one uncommon thing about here usually

Elyria Lorain County
April 28th 56

I believe you owe me a letter thanks
but I will not for it before writing again to
you — because I long to hear from you
I expect to go home sooner than I should
perhaps if all had been well. Emma is
going with me and she can go to Oberlin
in May & June better than later in the sea-
son because Miss Peabody a friend of hers
who is teaching & boards here can take care
of the children she expects to be here only till
the first week in July

We think now of starting about the 19th of
May — Annamaria to visit at Dunbar's
on our way will not be at Wakeman before
the first part of June. The Dr will go after her
about the middle of June perhaps

The Dr. Annie & I took a ride — ninety 15 or
20 miles to Canby Co. Last of Sept — it is a beautiful Country about here — It looks
as if it must be much easier for Farmers to
get a living here than in Maine

I suppose that I can thank you help the hard work that you have done on that farm you want to have made you independently Rich here & probably 20 years ago you could have got a good farm here for half what that cost you But the query is whether it is not too late now to profit by your stakes if you should want to It is a fine country for fruit of almost any kind did you notice when you were here what fine thrifty looking apple & cherry trees higher than the top of this high house that have not growing more than 10 or 12 years Pears Peaches quinces & Grapes in abundance The Dr. says you had better sell your farm & come out here & take or hire some land for one season & that would give you time to look round for a place to buy — I wish with you could have been here years ago if it would do any good ——

They are about starting a Cheese Factory here in Elyria on the same plan as Mount Hollyoke they expect the cost to be about one hundred thousand dollars so managed that the cost to each patron shall be no more than 60 dollars a year

I have such a realizing sense of the "march of Mind" & of the improvements that have been going on in Customs & Manners and in knowledge of ingenuity various kind, and feel such a crushing weight of ignorance awkwardness & inability. — that I have a great desire to warn you to make great exertions to keep up with the times

Possibly your Children may remain Boorish & ignorant all their days there is a large class of people that are so — & will be so — But you would rather they should rise & shine as lights in the world — Any one is culpable if they do not strive to improve such advantages as they have & secure such benefits to themselves and their Children as are attainable

You have the Mind and the ability to do some good in the world besides just what you can do with your hands ~~if~~ & probably there is some where a fit post for you to be in in order to do it if you could only find it — However no ought not to think of that for you can and ought to do a great deal of good where you are or wherever you are — Tho' I think your situation & circumstances have been such as would not call out the best powers of the mind to the greatest extent

I did intend to write a regular letter to
the little boys ——— Tell them and Mary
that I think of them a great deal and feel very
anxious that they should all be very good
children & learn to do right in every thing
because it is right ——— To be obedient to their
Parents and kind & pleasant & polite to every
body ——— Tell Charlie he must set a good example
for the others and by no[illegible] not to be ~~cruel~~
cruel as I fear that he is too much inclined to be

And now if they go to school do attend to
them after they come home at night and
inquire into their conduct their studies and
their manners Bad examples at school
can be counteracted by right care and
treatment at home about all things don't
allow of any cheating or concealing any
thing Children have great temptations to
it ——— May God bless you all & keep you from
every evil

Much love to all and each of you from

Your Father

Bangor June 28th 56

My dear Son

I suppose you would like to hear how we are getting along I can I had better run & write — I do not almost accustomed about any sometimes. Some days She seems more comfortable & then again & almost every day She has pain & soreness in her side many times at nights her food distresses her very much. Her stomach & throat so sore & coughing all the time her flesh near that ever afternoon

Can't lie down day or night sleeps sat sleeps up or in her chair. She stuffs she coughs up tough bad sometimes. Blood & She raises I should think near a quart a pint every four & then more. Aint natural Having all this to be in ago to expect that all will get be well

I wish you & Lizzie would write to me if you — I do so want to see the children & if you can, get them down

I wish James would write to me & would write to him but my time is very much taken up there is enough for me to do to get mean; every day James has written some very good letter to Lizzie I hope they'll do her good they surely ought to —— She is a bit wicked away with false notions perhaps & is to much of a Magpie does not see at once but what all the world is made for her —— She just needs that true Humility which divine Grace bestows She does not quite so pleasant & lovely as her disposition as when she was here before —— But it is a critical time of life with her a year or 2 will probably make a great change in her & sometimes for the better —— I think she is improving now There has been some perceptible change for the better since I came —— I think Caddie is pleased with the doll Jamie sent to her also

If you can conveniently I wish you would send me some money & I will enough for the present & do write oftener and much

Ever your Mother,

Much love to Hattie & Lucie
How I do want to see you all good bye

Bangor Sept. 11th 1856.

My Dear Children

The dear precious little babe is gone it died yesterday morning about 9 o'clock — this morning it is buried — the coffin opened & it laid in its mothers arms we had no funeral except Prof. Shepherd came in & pray'd with us & the sexton came & alone the little body was carried away ——— But I Charles the hand of God is heavy upon Dear Isaac & Nettie — Dear lonely little Mary how we did all love them But they I fear they worship the gift rather than the giver — and it is taken from them It is indeed a heavy blow God grant it may be sanctified to them that they may be submissive may see the perishing nature of all earthly things and

and set there through man a heaven
O how one & another is call'd away
how soon how may soon we all be
fix'd in an eternal State O may
all these things help us to see & feel
that Christ is all of happiness &
enable us to throw ourselves entirely
upon his mercy to live to Him —
what is all the universe good for if
we have not an interest in him and
having Him we possess all things

Sam'l has proposed to Ebert
to move up here & keep house — They
have not as yet concluded to — I don't
know whether they will — I wish they
would I think it would be better for 'em
& certainly much pleasanter for me
Write with now may we all
much love to the children
good bye

Mr C. W Rich

Bangor Jan 1st 1857

My Dear Children

I wish you all a very happy new year — & I thank you very much for a good letter I received from you a day or two since

I am very glad the boys go to school & are learning hope they will not suffer themselves to get their heads full of play while at school keeps because they can play after school & then it will not be so good a time to learn am very glad too that Mary is learning to read

Tell them I want very much indeed that they should always be kind & pleasant to each other & never speak cross but always in a polite and pleasant voice & if they will all mind the golden rule they never have occasion to speak cross

About Mary Ann & Hook I have nothing only one little girl who lives near here but she is so superior & resides in the "Front of the Garden" she goes to Dancing School & Dancing School is not made for six years old!! She has a Thibet Cloak belted

Dowes — with a Cape they wear Capes not near as large as they did last winter So Hattie & Marion say — The winter is so far gone that I Dont know but I should let her wear that blue one if you could get some Ribbon just the color and put on or round the Cape it would make it & guess about as large as they wear them now — & they've got the fashion worse than ever about wearing the girls clothes short — The dresses just about to the knees & the little white embroidered drawers just come below the Gaiters It seems ridiculous to me but fashion will be fashion

Sarinet talks of being gone 3 or 4 weeks this winter visiting in N. H. & looking about in Boston & elsewhere Dont calculate to go to Minnesota till Summer & guess Percie has had a very bad cold had the Croup twice Has not very bad cold bandage on his neck relieved him Eliab & Marion talk of going to Milo Marion wants to go very much — Tis possible they may go some

home next week if the weather is mild & pleas
ant tho' I have not heard them say when nor
heard & say that they certainly should go at
all — if they go I think it will be before very
long for I don't think it will keep about
till March

was n't you pleased with the likeness of Lucy
that Sam'l gave Charles — He got six of them
was n't he good to give us all one — He is gone
I love him like an own son I have always
lik'd him but he seems nearer to me since
Lucys death

I wish you would write often I feel interes-
ted in every that is going on there
Did n't Charles go home pretty well down
I feel almost as well as before I was sick only not
so strong I have some cough yet and pain in my
right side occasion'd the Dr says by adhesion of
the Lungs but I think 'tis getting better
Ethab is very busy cutting money is not very
well complaining of pain in his side and
shoulder much love to you all from your
Mother

Bangor Jan. 2nd 1857

Dear Children,

Don't [illegible] I cannot write any
longer to-day Answer S's [illegible] when you'll
find them in my work basket in the
closet in my room That is where I generally
keep them I send [illegible] I have not much
time from old books that I brought home But
probably there are some papers in the drawers
that he wants, & Memorandum Books &c

Did S. say anything about stocking yarn he told
me some time ago that he would rather you would let
him have stocking yarn than pay him money for these
things as it was not so easy to get it at Minnesota
but it was before he knew that Almira had sent
any I have posted S yesterday & there is enough to knit 3 pairs
& I suppose that will do but if you have any that you
would like to send him I guess you can [illegible]
[illegible] I have [illegible] & Love to all

As to the [illegible] S. [illegible] on Sunday I cannot
to have you take it but it is a good heavy thing and

not as handsome as yours & don't want to buy it unless
mended & new trim'd — However if you know that you
shall not come away perhaps you had better take it
Last Summer I say you will go east — That you can be
better off if you can dispose of your property there
for half what it is worth to go to day nothing about it
benefit to the children A letter came to S. from his father
while he was gone & another since he came back He
writes that father has lately made quite a purchase
of a share [10 th] 1/10 th of a new [illegible] just [illegible]
with a hundred Mill privilege I don't know as I remember
right but I believe he said he could sell it now & make
$10,000 S said in his that he shall [illegible] S. [illegible]
with him when he goes in the Spring If [illegible] me
feel sad I suppose it would be hard for him to leave
him & he so far from him — But it seems as if it would
be better for S to stay here a year or two & he surely
cannot any of them can live with him as he is
(I don't know how he is going to get him there for he dislikes
his friends every day or two)

You have seemingly enough but so that you would not
want him there but it would be better for him to
be there with me than to go among strangers

His father must be with us if his manners should be such as that he could have them learned at the same place he could know but very little how he is treated
She child needs discipline as well as tender affectionate care & love Lucy was so anxious that he should be with me — Said there was no other way that she could think of that she could take any comfort in thinking of — I suppose Almeda would be glad to have him with her — But I expect Sam'l will think he must have him with him (& wants to show him to his folks) Sam'l starts today for Boston N. H. &c — He thinks Aunt James will go next & that Almeda will & Elisa. says he shall go next. That he shall stay in Bangor but a few years longer
L. says I had better go out to Elysian where he goes that all my children will be sent that way in a few years — I do not know what I may conclude but I don't feel now as if I should go next Spring I have not been with Almeda much this long time I don't feel like leaving her now she is in health
If I do not go next I shall if I live expect to be at Wido Mary Ely is coming here before long & I guess Sam'l Ely will be here next summer too but I don't know
with much love to you all from your Mother

you better make sure if you are coming down or the snow will get so deep that it will be more trouble

E & Mollie will not go to Pinto this winter so write more frequently all the news. What you are doing. How the boys get along &c. &c. &c.

Mary Jane Lee

Bangor Feb 21st /57

I write a few lines just to ask what you say & think about having Pierce at your house and Almira this Coming Summer—I think S is more than half inclined to let me keep him—I know that Abbie can take enough & don't mean but the comfort of her business anyway but if he should be there I want to be there too to take care of him. & that would be very glad to have us both stay here, & on some accounts it would be pleasanter but on the whole I should prefer not to—The Children at Eagle are urging me to go there with Pierce & Sam'l would prefer that I stay there any—but he is expecting to go in about 4 weeks from now. & considering Almira's health & that I have been there so very little this long time—It seems as if I could go very [illegible] for Sam again but I want to know what you & Abbie & Edmund think

Now do please write home & tell me what I am
better do & write immediately - have not you received
letters here even Sarah you would do if it was I am
sure for you — could not you get James to buy the milk
you come over here — we are all in pain to hear
how they get on at home — Mary Ely has got about
her hem quite sick with hanging about a week but has got about
well now — Mary Ely came home about a week ago will be all
Summer, I suppose Sam't Ely will come in the Spring — this
will be the Home for them all I guess

Miss Sarah I did not think to write a day or two sooner as I guess
you would get it for almost a week

have heard from John
Chatterton

24th Eliot has got his Cow & she is a middle baby and
would give a pail of milk the most day I think
I had one to the cattle yesterday — a nice looking one & a
"keeper" I do wish you could have it & is going to
feed it he can have 2 or 3 gallons per day — the Cow is large
give very good Milk — so, we may hope for it I guess
pretend this book to you Monday

remain dear — my own

Bangor August 17th ——

My Dear Daughter

I dont think of any thing new special to write but yet feel inclined to scribble a little — chiefly because I want to hear from home perhaps — ~~Father~~ Had letter from Isaac yesterday came in seven days from Mt Hankins he & Charles were there in good health but we see by the papers that the Cholera is round about in all the western cities — The season is so far advanced now that I dont feel so much fears of the boys having it as I did — Isaac did'nt say a word about Charles coming home — I want very much to hear what he says about coming home after getting our letters It seems that they are suffering very much there with the drought the grass all dried up & the corn all spoil'd for eight weeks, Isaac said they had had no rains at all

I want to hear whether it is as dry at Mt Ida as here the Trees are dying & the corn in the garden all drying up the grass looks as brown as in november — What do you do about Corn for the pigs — I believe Elijah said the price of corn is 85 cents he says if you want any supplies send to them (Tucker & Metcalf) of course — They can to advantage use & want to, all they Money they have and

a great deal more I suppose but expect to furnish what you need — Have you sold the wool? Is Charlie at the Village yet? — I wish he could be at Almeda's while Jane is with you

Marion is about quite smart yet — Percie is better but not at all well — his gums very much swollen & his bowels in a bad state — don't play about on the floor any — but is very patient & quiet — Sam'l & Eliab are full very full of business — I should be glad to have you get some yarn spun enough for one pr womens stockings about middling fine & send it when you do the rest & if you can get some yarn ready for Charles some stockings I can knit it for you If he needs them I don't know whether he does — I guess I had got enough knit for Charlie & I supposed those that he had and mine so small would be enough for Josie

am much obliged to you for sending Charles letter will send it back I shall feel really worried about Sam'l cannot till I hear from him & his family I think he would be more likely to have the Cholera because he is so near news and afraid of it

We had a letter from Amna today She arrived home the Friday after leaving here all well — If you can get corn there just as cheap there it is just as well I suppose

Yours affectionately at Home

Dec

My Dear Children I am at present very busy getting ready to go to Canada for a few months & expect to leave about the 1st of January — Mr Pinney sits & talks away again in conversation — has a train of thoughts about him as rather genius never does anything except to further his purpose will have a good house keep a wheel Chaise Carriage a common waggon a Gig & nice low Sleigh

Mr Pinney says I shall be allowed as much as I like & further that a pound a day every thing for every day in the most liberal manner

Mary Comment how they can possibly & comfortably live with Isaac & Nettie keep house i.e. he provides and she directs the household I thought best that Nettie should take the Charge & Mrs. S. was willing as she needed rest however she does & will keep doing taking care of the babies or something Mr. P. leads in family worship in the Morning & Isaac at night — I have wondered why Isaac was unwilling to sit in the family as he did in his Chamber after they retired to bed

Feb 18th

I had written the above a long time ago when at Lambertville & put it in my last letter to finish another time & forgot all about it — perhaps I have written the same on some of my other sheets but I have sent but no matter. It will do no harm to write a little more on the same sheet

I wrote to you but a few days ago but I was going
to tell you a little more about Isaac Tho' I don't know
much for he could'nt tell himself There seems to
a gross all with the Government about the R. R. or a
waiting for a decision of the Supreme Court or something
that stops them commencing work — I guess Isaac had
by know what to do — Henry to Madison I suppose to
misconvey
see whether he did'nt want to buy there he shewed me
a Map of the place & pointed out some Lots which
as he said he did not buy I suppose from the way he
told it that he did almost conclude to buy there — It
is the Capital of the State you know & is or is to be the terminus
of a Rail Road — is but a few years old & has 8000
inhabitants very healthy place &c &c he about the latitude
of Ohio — I am afraid I gave you a very impression
about the Dr. by what I wrote about him in my last letter
he is a person of very strong feelings & it is difficult for him
to control himself when any thing affects him very suddenly
but he is a good man not only a perfect Gentleman that
will not do any thing unkind or annoying to any one but
he is one of the most perfect Christians that I know — Not
only very & truly polite but very right in every thing he is
in the Bank at 10 o'clock & gets home at 4 in the afternoon
he read law to us more or less every day — as for me I
suspect I am in danger of passing for something more
than I am for People here seem to think that Mrs.
Dr Wm. Matheo must be somebody pretty much
and they have not had time to find out their mistake

Why do you know with Mary & Mrs. Cooley on there so early on the day but you never Be Lonesome Dear Mary — Tommy Burt & I am of never Heard &c to come to do add remarks &c &c — well he will learn every obedience — He is very fractious to [illegible] — But I feel as if I should very much enjoy being with you now you have none but our folks — Guess I shall go home in 4 or 5 weeks — perhaps sooner

If you find you must get a Stove & a good many other things would not you do well to come down & get them & not stop much — But come down and make your visit after I get home

It seems as if you could n't leave home both together so well before, as after I get home as I could help take care Edial is now gone to Boston — Sam'l talks of going to Penn Sylvania — Whether you think of ever leaving Wila or not now is a good starting point a good time to begin any new regulations & that you would be wise that you would be willing to do what you know & feel to be duty

How nice it would be Allison if you & Charles could get your supper & chores all out of the way before dark & then set out your table & lights & Books & make a settled point of instructing the Children they are old enough to learn a great many things — besides beginning to read there is a great many ways in which such Children

Why do you not write to Mary
Dear Mary
How reasonable & proper to do so
The Children
Will Dan & Jonas both
Edial Sam'l write
to Mary
I will try to
write to them
one of these
days — must
have a week
and all of you
write to me
Good bye
Learn them
to write to
them

might be interested & learnt what they need to know if it was only by asking & answering questions just a short time every evening & then read some in the Bible

I think no parent can feel justified or expect the blessing of God if they do not read the Bible to their children & make them sit still & listen — but not too long at once all lessons for little children should be short & made interesting if possible I should like to be at home to hear all the incidents & every thing that was said & done out to Ducoings — & hear the multiplicity of plans and calculations for the future — And make some arrangement about property matters but I can't be in two places at once — I am very conveniently & comfortably situated here in regard to going to meeting & every thing... I can't do any body much good any where so it is not much matter where I am in that respect — unless it is to be where I should make the least trouble

If you both would only write letters long particular letters I want exceedingly to know all your doings & sayings (your thoughts) all your cogitations & plans for the future

The Hymn "Whenever I take my walks abroad" beginning on the 222nd page of "Songs for the little ones" — Charlie began to learn I want he should learn it all, the more he learns the easier he can learn, somebody must take pains with him in order to his learning I should think that if repeated to him the 2 first verses of that hymn more than 50 times — But me

know that he can learn many other things he does learn easy enough so that he can get book knowledge — "If the tool is dull put to the more strength"

If you will recollect a conversation I had with you about 7 years ago on neglecting to cultivate the intellect and allowing the whole soul & mind to be absorbed in the things of time & sense the mere animal you may see a reason why Charlie has no love for a Book & let it induce you both to put forth great & unwearied effort to counteract the tendency to, all animal & no soul remembering that whatever good you accomplish with the eldest is more than half accomplished with the younger ones for the copy will be followed whether good or bad

I punish'd Charlie once while there with a rod for improper immodest behavior — I wish he could be induced to tell exactly about it — but his better feelings that he should not know that I mention'd it — He has fine & tender feelings — has the stuff in him as Lucy says to make a noble & excellent man if rightly train'd

It seems to me that if I were you I would make the training the minds of the Children the all important work whatever else is neglected that should not be there — manners too should be daily & hourly attended to

I have a keener sense of it from seeing so much that appears uncouth & really imprudent in Charlie without his being conscious that it was in any way improper — I am aware that there are many obstacles to overcome but they can & must be surmounted

A. M. H.

Dear Brother and Sister

Mother desired me to occupy this page, which I am glad to do. If we, her perverse and degenerate offspring, did only "practise all the precepts she from time "inculcates", what patterns of excellence should we not become! I second her wishes & advice with all earnestness in regard to Charlie. As Mrs. Lee says, "the battle is half over if the first one is brought up right," and it does seem to me of great importance that little things be attended to in his case. "Life is made up of little things" you know. It does not become me/such as I to give advice, I know, but your Charlie is a fine natured boy, sensitive, susceptible to impression, capable of making a noble man, a fine specimen of humanity, but it seems to me that he needs very peculiar treatment - very gentle and very firm, - more of the latter perhaps, than would be necessary if he had not been a good deal left to himself of late. His will must be broken, but if his Spirit is broken, or greatly mortified, it would be his ruin. It seems to me that he must either make a very good character as he grows up, or a very wild, wayward one. It seems to me that the great thing is to keep his confidence, as our Mother did ours. I do feel particularly anxious about the comparatively little (nevertheless important in their place) matters of boys, thank you, if you please, yes sir and no sir, &c. &c. be not neglected - "here a little & there a little," will accomplish the matter & if They don't get such things when children there is danger that They will always be boors. All which is respectfully and lovingly submitted - no more for Lack of room - Liz Lucy.

Dear Charles,

Long I have been
wishing to have given
you the news of Lucy's birth
but I am sitting up
so much of the time
that I can not get
time to write
and now I am
writing in bed
Aug 23rd

Lucy as with the Lord, thousand
years how long he thought
the thousand years he would be with
me I tell you thousand years
him a week or more
he may
but when he not be shaken
up she shall be not a day
I pray Lord will all be upon you

Wednesday morning 13

The Dr. looked very joyful when he came this morning Said Lucy he had quite a good opinion of her really thought She was creeping up a little Most every one has thought she could not live The nurse if she ever gets well it will seem like a miracle of any thing she has seen that she shall never despair of any body again She is very low — Cough very dreadfully yet — but her breathing is somewhat relieved — & pain not so severe 14th we really can not tell whether she is getting better or not. we should take great encouragement that she is no worse if it were not for her cough. The baby is living but very feeble It weighed 3 ¼ I can't perceive as yet that it grows strong any we have a good nurse who takes all the care of Lucy She is strong & can lift her and I take the whole care of the babe I feed it by the spoon up

a little rag & put one end in its
mouth & lay the other in a teaspoon
of milk & water & she sucks it out
give her one teaspoonful one an hour
it appears to be well only so feeble and
helpless that it is a great care night
& day to watch it & keep it warm
Lucy is so patient & uncomplain
ing — I have never heard one mur
murring word thro' all her dreadful
suffering
Elias family are gone down river
for their health Mattie & baby were
unwell — Mattie in a letter to me
writes that they
should much rather be at Milo
with you — & asks me if it would be too
hard for Catherine if they should take
Ellen the Irish girl with them says
she dare not take the baby home till
the sickly season is over — She wrote to
Elias to know what he thought of the
plan says that Mattie likes Catherine
& wants to go that they should not be
lonely there &c — wrote to me mon
day what you think about it —
I must not stop to say any
more
Thursday Aug 14

I cannot yet feel that we have got to part with Dear Lucy—what could I do without her—& O for the little children if they live. when I think of them & Sam't and of how much happiness seems to depend on her life it seems to me that the will yet be raised up to bless and comfort us all—But God only knows & may for us that we may be able to say & feel "Thy will be done"

Percie has been pretty well all the time but we have to be very careful about it. But he eats like a little [illegible] is quite a good girl is quite a help we should hardly know how to do without her just now

write what you think about having or boundary Elects for the autumn But don't feel anxious or troubled about it if you do Let them take perhaps they must

Henry as they are conclude to go

My Dear Son I understood you to say — you made no pretentions to Religion — Have you considered the full meaning — the awful import of that saying — There is no neutral ground — are you willing to consider yourself in the enemies Camps, on the enemies ground fighting against and throwing your influence against the cause that your Mother, your wife & all your Brothers & Sisters love so well — Spurning the love of Him who gave his son to die. Him who suffered & died to give Salvation to all freely who will accept of it — O my Son you cannot in your heart feel willing to seperate yourself from God — from all holy beings & be sinking deeper & deeper further & further ~~from all that~~ as in that case you must from all that is good and holy

There is no neutral ground for you to stand upon. & your example must take its full effect on your Children. Can you wish them not to belong to Christ — you must be known. How your progress approaches nearer to God and Holiness or receding from all Good, all happiness

O may God by his Spirit show you where you stand and lead you into all truth — and give you peace in believing peace that peace which you — never can fully enjoy while neglecting the plain requirements of the Gospel. And what does God require of you what but just that which

will most enhance your own happiness come
come with the rest of us.— what is there to hinder
whatever it is— it will all vanish the moment you
determine that you will— I cannot believe but that
you are (notwithstanding your assertion) in heart on
the Lords side— then why not manfully shew your
colours throw your influence into the right scale

I have generally repaired from saying any
thing to you on this Subject for fear of saying what
would do more hurt than good— I could not express
to you if I should try the anxiety I have felt
why may I not know your thoughts and feelings

Mr & Mrs Reid

I expected to receive my letter of the 9th inst
Great if opinion
& yesterday and it disappointed me
more than ever to meet by the post from home
Baptist opinion on the duty of consecrating Christians
to God in infancy the mentioned statistics that
prove that about 7 tenths of the Communicants are
of those that were devoted to God in baptism in
their infancy I wish you could have learnt at once
not one fact so far to prove that it is sacred
duty of every Parent who does sincerely & honestly

appears to endeavour to train up their children
up for God as much by that appointment as
at least but if God does so dignify & bless the
public Ordinance of infant baptism is it
some proof that it is a duty which he requires
of every Parent

I thank you William for your letter
received Saturday evening

I have been intending to write to find out if I could, why you do not write to us — Lucy is not so well as when Charles was here if she goes to meeting or any where or does any thing hardly she has to lay on the lounge most of the time for two or three days — The rain yesterday has taken the snow about all off indeed there has not been deep snow at any time this winter. The Ice has made good skating

I dont know when I shall go home whether 2 or 3, or 5 or 6 weeks hence I hope & expect that Isaac & Nellie can make a good long visit at W. as it is not probable that he will go into any Rail road business till next Summer or Fall — And he needs the rest — exceedingly If he should go right on three years more with as much care and responsibility as for 3 years past he would be an old man — if alive — To have the care & anxiety of receiving and paying out almost half a Million of money in addition to directing so much work was too much Nellie's health is a good deal better than when she went from here

Chub has got a beautiful air tight stove with a little oven in it & can take in very long wood which I had one like it in my room — The folks are well at the other house — The baby is rather fat but is cutting teeth I suppose — but Hattie — Nellie's sister is as skinny and as earnest or more so than ever Anna & with both her sisters and her brothers there Marion gets along pretty well if they were not there she could not get along — Hannah a third girl — Mary is a smart drowsy little boy but has a very pleasant disposition — He is more forward of his age in walking and other things than Marion

Dear Mother I have not heard a word about yourselves and when you are coming down here — now the snow is gone ~~you~~ here but perhaps only here & there we may have more perhaps in a few days — have you plenty of snow up there we heard there was 3 feet of snow at one time at Tarcoola?

I cant think of any thing more to write now

write, write I say to your Mother

Isaac has left Mr Hoy out of agreement about with love of his money — Glad is a
Insert Financier & suppose a strange land & the heart will be that finds a
cent in the world and a 100 000 dollars be worth it all up at the
time it became due

Dear Children I was very glad indeed of your good letter & rejoice to hear that there is a greater attention to religious things of God may you all share in it & may it be lasting as eternity & not like the morning cloud and the early Dew — I wish I could step in and sit & chat with you evenings I want to see Jessie & many I expect he will be such a great smart boy I shall hardly know him I suppose he can fetch in all the wood & chips that Charlie & the chops

Isaac has telegraphed twice to the Kays from Chicago & N York But he has not written to tell us when he is coming however they are all expecting him & Nellie & Mary next week shall have a letter I guess Soon I went down to Ethel's yesterday had not been there since Thanksgiving day Maria is not very well had a very bad cold & head ache they had a great social Gathering at the vestry all the people invited who attend the Central Church Maria took a very bad cold perhaps by wearing thin shoes

I am glad to hear that Charlie learns to read & I am rather glad that he does not go to school Lucy says she would not send a child to Wm to school L. at any rate — Lucy concluded & so did I that Charlie had been taught to count & read and learn'd enough that he must get Martin by

Coertion or any habit before he would feel interested about learning — I felt when he was here that it would be better for him to make him know that he must stand up straight & try to read as well as he could — not leave it at his option I cannot but think he will have his book if he can only get so as to read right off and understand what he reads.

Is James coming to board & go to school & work for his board will it be a benefit to Charlie & Josie or not perhaps you can make a benefit I suppose he is more of a man than he was once I should think it would be better for him & you Charles for you to be with him exercising a constant influence and Control over him

James has the stuff in him to make a smart man his of very great importance what ideas & what principles he imbibes now it is the forming state with his mind now the "seed time" and habits once put on are hard to get off — try to make him feel right & do right — also reprove him if he is not neat in his person and gentlemanly in his manners every day all the time and it will help to make Charlie & Josie so there are little things as Lucy says but a good habit is just as easy when once formed as a bad one I think you have not been careful enough about these things & I know I have not — Do write good long letters to me often all about the Children & all affairs at home

my love to Mr Sargent & wife — and all that care anything about & May God be with you & bless you

I cant as yet find out exactly when we shall go to Wilts — But guess we shall come sometime next week — You did not express your opinion very definitely about a Stove whether we had better get one or not — I should be sorry to get there so many of us when you are out of such things as you sent for in your letter & there seems to be no chance for sending any thing up just now

Perhaps you had better get that little one at Mr Sargents and set it up (unless he will buy it) — Tho' Isaac says in his extravagant way he wont have any such thing we'll have a nice new one & send it right up tomorrow

However I see no way for getting one there before we should have about done wanting it this winter as we shall probably go to Brownville before the Mercury is gone & it wont be long if the weather should be as mild as it has been — It has been so muddy & bad and the horse has been gone so that we could not go any where much I'm doubtful just whether I can get the cloth like Charlies pants

Yours &c

James thinks he had rec'd letter yesterday
School this Spring — had better perhaps
work for you, wages uncertain (many
here can't get work) & Brannans
are very high — think you need
help & should think some of the
time & he could study somewhere
you do, if this work
is [illegible] he will be at home
next week (I shall be glad of many details
on the receipt of)

Mr C Rich

If you have any thing special to say write
by Tuesday, Mail or Monday would be better
& you had better write at any rate

A week ago last Saturday we had a great Snow
Storm so that it kept the Stage &c blocked & drifted again so as
And last Friday 24th began about the greatest Snow Storm that ever
I knew, it snowed fast all day with a strong east wind — Saturday
it snowed some & blowed very hard all day from the west & continued
to blow till Monday night — Before this last Snow the fences
up the road were all covered up & the road filled up past sight in
the fences now I presume the Snow is more than 10 feet deep
in many places about the house I wish you could see how
deep the Snow is — Some where on the south side of the woods
I dont know these two last Snows — I wish I could give you some
general idea of matters & things here — The Sheep I guess will
turn out some as they did that winter that Florian took care
of them — I suppose Uncle Mark was very careful — but perhaps
failed in judgment I believe he thought best not to give grain to the
Sheep in the first part of the winter — I was gone most all the time
while he was here which was only 7 or 8 weeks — I think James has very
good judgment for a boy about taking care of Sheep &c. But of course was
more intent upon his school & having a good time than any thing else
I think he meant to be faithful. But it was very cold the feeder
they've not had much grain nor enough of any thing I think but snow — no water
not very good, no convenience for giving grain to so many Sheep
& he you know had to leave 'em from 8 o'clock till dark — Since
in order to fix & get to school when he ought to
James went home we've had a most awful week the rest of the time
we have depended on little Simmons (Mad Stephens has been here some)
Albina has had a hard time taking care & she you know cannot bear it a
little. Calvin & Jessie the twins, she can't bear to hear any little discomfort with
Stephens don't know any thing about taking care at the best, nor Simmons much
Tis said there never was a time when it was so almost impossible to have help

It requires some of Mr. C. W. Birch's judgment to get along with all our disadvantages & difficulties — we have too many sheep on the farm in the big pasture

It is very favorable for us that this dreadful Storm did not come in the terrible Cold weather — I know felt very anxious when I came home that there should be some way to separate the sheep by making another yard & shed so that they could be fed in the corn but we could'nt see our [illegible] it "no how" There seems so many difficulties in the prospect like poor fences, lack of good farming tools — lack of judgment, discretion, & other qualities in a hired man if we can get one that you had better consider well whether it will be best for you or the whole to stay so late as you were intending — But you of course know pretty much how things are here — And how you are situated there — If you should stay there a little too long and get the "Shakes" you might have it all your life long

you are apt you know, when you begin any piece of work to feel such a strong inclination to finish, that you are not willing to leave it, when you know there are other things more necessary to be done — you must guard against that in making up your conclusions about coming home

It is monday afternoon — there has no person paid here since last Thursday & by the appearance of the roads I should think they could'nt for a week to come — probably we shall all feel better when this wind ceases and the warm weather comes — Mr. Medary has not got back we don't know whether he will — if he does or we get any body else we will run it again

A. sometime gets over but Rand with care — this hand for her if she could only know it as it seems as if I could, — but she can't, she will [illegible] greatly by [illegible] spell — [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Bangor Jan 20th

My Dear Son Charles

Tho' I have not received a word from you I'll endeavor to write a little Why did not you tell us what you are doing how you like your employment what you can earn & how you like the Country & the Climate whether you can usually attend meeting & how you take the preaching — I think Mr Gilmans very Sudden death must have occasioned very solemn thoughts — O if it had been you instead of him Snatch'd away as it were without a moments warning — what reasons we all especially you have to bless God that you were Spar'd & have not your and all of us reason to say what shall we render unto God for all his mercies

My Dear Son why is it that you do not come out Manfully on the Lords side you cannot in your present State be willing to be ranked with Infidels and that your influence should go to aid the enemy of Souls & drag down his victim

to eternal misery & wretchedness
Tho' your conduct may be every way correct
are you not which you neglect openly to
declare yourself or the right side do you not
at least as far as that is concern'd Rob God
of the honour & glory that is due to him from
you — We are told to avoid even the appearance
of evil — then "why will you not go with us"
neglect daily will keep you from the enjoy-
ment of religion if you possess it

Dear Lill. Fescie has had a fearful cough
of the croup as you will see by Lucy's letter to Jane
Sam'l was at our house last Saturday (14th of
this month) the folks were all well Charlie has
had got better of his cough I came away 2
or 3 weeks sooner than I expected to & intended
to stay at home till after Almeda had been
down here and made her visit but she was
not ready & it was more convenient for Sam'l
& it seem'd better also for me to be away in the
est of the weather I intend to go back as soon as
the weather grows warm probably in March

It seems to me that "Uncle Mark" is not
just what I expected it don't seem exactly
right at his meeting house there I don't

think he can do any thing about painting
the house he cannot see well enough
if his judgment is sufficient he cannot see
to read in any common print with his
Spectacles on & he is much more feeble
than I had thought — How much it do to
have James do all the Chores after the day
get long or after the wheat is done if he
could & he doubtless wants the money &
he could have what much Mark does you
know Money must be a great consideration
with him — I suppose he knows how well
enough & is able enough if the inducement
were sufficient — However I don't know
as it would be best — However it may be
Don't give yourself any uneasiness about
things at home — I ask'd Sam'l to see Mr.
Livermore & Henry Hunnewell about
fixing the Sheep Sheds — Sam'l talks that
it is preposterous to think of keeping Cattle
in such a Cold Barn — Elliot said that
young Bennett wants to go to Milo & ask'd &
to go up with him if he should go he will
see to things — There is one

you need not fear but they'll all be taken care
of — and you'll hear all about every
thing by return mail

Now do write often and particularly
all about your own prospects & doings
and all about Nettie's health — has Isaac
heard any thing more from Sam'l Conant
and have you written to him you certainly
ought to in answer to his first if you have before
you rest away tell him all about your
family and affairs as well as about the
country there

whatever else you do you ought
to write to your Mother

I do feel truly thankful that Isaac & Nettie
are willing to add their mite by writing as
much as they do to all there, that I feel as if
they had now an additional task to perform
by way of making up your lack in, that way
& do you profit by their example and
write much and often — the more you
write the easier it will be

I have made Charlie a good long measure for a pair of that Camblet — I don't think it would be a good plan to let him have a warm frock or something to wear out every day, & keep that for when he goes to church or from home anywhere. According to Lucy's advice I bought Cloth 1½ yds & made him some pants I got a pattern for them & his jacket I don't very greatly admire the set of them — but they are in style and pretty enough — He has been a good boy — for the most part — but it seems as if there is a millions & a Carriage about Lavinny to read but he is so energetic & persevering about work & play that I hope he will learn bye & bye at any rate he won't be quite a fool if he don't get any book-learning

I think there is enough left of the Cloak to make Jessie a jacket & you that is if the Cape — you without taking there is some Sleeves there that I should think would be large enough for Jessie's arms as I suppose they are there Jane did not carry them away & there about a dress — have you had it done to fix up & wear out there, you have & some money so as to afford to buy in the Spring a neat nice "best dress"

I cut Charlies jacket (big Walter Palmer) long enough to wear outside next fall if you want to by taking the buttons off — little boys can wear their outside jackets down to their knees

My Dear Son we all feel greatly disappointed that you do not come home as we expected Walter is a good deal more unwell a week a fortnight past than he has been & feels rather discouraged ~~I guess he don't intend to stay for~~ ~~winter~~ ~~but~~ But says he'll stay unless something transpires that would make it more necessary for you to come home Walter feels poor I suppose, his health is so poor

Albina seems to feel rather unaccountable Says you aught to come to take care of the children they are burdensome to her sometimes — I think I shall try to take Charlie with me to Bangor if Lucy will consent to it — but she has had a hard time

I am writing this in great haste as Walter is waiting will write again soon am afraid you will get sick by staying —— Am glad to have you there on Isaac's account and that only

Thursday afternoon

Dear Father & Mother

We arrived all safe & well yesterday a long past
noon & if you fancy I was heartily tired with
so long a journey I became not so much so as I did
only stopping to get some refreshment & then
got in our beds before we knew it
morning about 9 o'clock. We had a good journey
did not accomplish what I meant for we left
the Brig "Swan" Tuesday last Charles has to go
somewhere — Havana I believe — brought home
in his Pockets about 3000 ℔ for other folks careless
trick I think

When you come Lucy I want you should
fetch that Cheese of Ellmore's which I should
Ann or I might have if he remembered

If you Charles & Ellen like the name
Should love to have the little Daughter named
Esther it would be so very gratifying to your aunt
Esther — Ann likes the name very much but if you
or either of you dislike the name don't be afraid
to say so

Remember and bring back Anne & Mother
Letter — Miss Biggon came in with her mouth
and sat 2 or 3 hours yesterday afternoon

Don't you wish you'd been here to hear the Swan
ade — if I did'nt tremble and shiver from head
to foot when at first began, I became as close

to the minors I think it was too bad Mr Hankins had just as good at least just as legal a right to have a fifth wife as the first one I saw in my time he needed a housekeeper — & as they must agree among themselves about it i.e. the courtship all by writing did not mean to have it known & till fairly married but it leaked out — Mrs. Wiggen said that Sarah felt very bad at the thought of her Fathers having a fifth wife and occasioning many remarks by every body all about the City Sarah was gone from home to spend the night when the Serenade was

I don't think of any thing more to write.

So good bye

Lucy is just doing up a bundle of "Messengers & 2 No. of the Mothers Magazine to send down to the Store to see if it will not sometime get to Milo a part of them might have been sent when Charles went but none of us thought of it

I rather think Sam'l will not pay for them this year but I should think that any pious person any heads of family that care for the eternal welfare of their children would be willing to pay just 1/ a year for them I dont think they would do any body much good if they were not willing to pay for them. I have been looking every Mail for a letter from you why dont you write? There are many things I want to know about. How did you settle with Walter i.e. how much did you pay him Have you sold the wool? — why would'nt you do well to send Potatoes to Market they are 90 cents a bbl in Hartford a good deal of the time they have been more than a dollar — I am very anxious to hear more about the religious interest in Ill. Is God in his sovereign and Mercy moving the hearts of the people by his Spirit or is it an excitement of Mans getting up If the former what in finite reason we have to bless His name and cry God Speed the work not only with the voice but with our efforts — O that in every heart it may be a seed a thorough work of Grace

I'll write no more now for the bundle may not reach you this Month

Mr. C. W. Rich

Milo

1864

Elyria Sept. 19th /64

My dear Sister (Lib. Williams)

It seems a long time since I have had a letter from you I don't know whether I have written to you since or not i.e. I don't know whether I have directed a letter to you but the letters I send to sister Lomant I suppose you should read just as much & the Home Missionary also She might read them & then send them to you — You write so seldom that I know but little how you are getting along — we are both in the nature of things near the end of life's journey. Does Death seem to you the "King of terrors" I suppose we can't know just how we shall feel on it, near approach but it seems to me (tho' I have every thing to make life pleasant) that

yet it is more to be desired. Thus
dreaded — Son here we see us Through
a glass darkly but there face to face.
Tis remarkable that we three
sisters have enjoyed such good
health even until now
I have lately heard from
my Children in Maine they
& my Children here are all well
We have had considerable com-
pany here at Isaac's this Summer
2 young ladies (cousins to Nettie
have been here 4 or 5 weeks they
are teachers one from Boston the
other from Worcester. & now —
Nellies Brother (who is a Minister
from Yarmouth Maine) & his
wife are spending several
weeks here — Isaac is busy all the
time with public business has
hardly time to attend to his own
necessary affairs being Town Treasurer too
Nathan the
Poor of the towns to look after

& the Soldiers families, & numerous affairs of Educational & the Military Concerns — I dont know but he is doing as much good in the world as if he had devoted himself to a "profession"

Ed[illegible]b has lately been to Penn. to see about his land there — he came here & stay'd about a week he has got a little Daughter about 3 months old

Almeda's Son has a Daughter one year old & so she is a grandmother you see Her Daughter was expecting to be married some time ago but has been considerably out of health I wish you would write to me I want to know whether Esther Goddard has returned from Jamestille We have not heard any thing of them since we were there last May. I want you should tell me about Marion & her Mother Joseph and

Humphrey & Their families we have been expecting Joseph to come all summer why dont he come — you nor Betsey either have not so many Children to visit to as I have & therefore you ought to write to me oftener — I had a very good letter from Mrs. Bullrich Lucia's eldest Daughter last spring I was very much gratified for I had heard so little of the Barnes friends that I did not know but they had forgotten me I wish you would write to me oftener — What does Brother Williams think of the War now would he be glad to have the rebellion prevail over the north & have Slavery established all over the land War is dreadful but Tyranny & injustice — oppression & Cruelty is a greater evil God is on the side of right & justice — His will be done my love to Henry to his Father & all the friends

from your loving Sister

A. McNeely

Elyria, O. Sept. 19. 1864

My dear Sister (Esther Willims)

It seems a long time since I have had a letter from you. I don't know whether I have written to you since or not. ie. I don't know whether I have directed a letter to you but the letters I send to sister Conant I want you should read just as much, and the Home Missionary also. She might read them and then send them to you. You write so seldom that I know but little how you are getting along. We are both in the nature of things, near the end of life's journey. Does death seem to you the "king of terrors"? I suppose we can't know just how we shall feel on its near approach but it seems to me (though I have every thing to make life pleasant) that yet it is more to be desired than dreaded, for here we see through a glass darkly but there face to face. 'Tis remarkable that we three sisters have enjoyed such good health even until now.

I have lately heard from my children in Maine. They and my children here are all well. We have had considerable company here at Isaac's this summer, Two young ladies, cousins to Nettie, have been here four or five weeks. They are teachers. One from Boston, the other from Worcester. And now Nettie's brother, (who is a minister from Yarmouth Maine) and his wife are spending several weeks here. Isaac is busy all the time with public business. Has hardly time to attend to his own necessary affairs. Being town trustee, he has the poor of the town to look after and the soldiers families and numerous affairs of educational and the military concerns. I don't know but he is doing as much good in the world as if he had devoted himself to a "profession". Eliab has lately been to Pennsylvania to see about his land there. He came here and staid about a week. He has got a little daughter abo ut three months old. Almeda's son has a daughter one year old and so she is a grandmother, you see. Her daughter was expecting to be married sometime ago but has been considerably out of health. I wish you would write to me. I want to know whether Esther Godard has returned from Zanesville. We have not heard anything of them since we were there last May. I want you should tell me about Maria and her mother, Joseph and Humphry and their families.

We have been expecting Joseph out here all summer. Why don't he come ? You nor Betsy either have not so many children to write to as I have and therefore you ought to write to me oftener. I had a very good letter from Mrs. Buttrick Lois's (2) oldest daughter last spring and was very much gratified for I had heard so little of the Barree (?) friends that I did not know but they had forgotten me. I wish you would write to me oftener. What does brother Williams think of the war now ? Would he be glad to have the rebellion prevail over the north and have slavery established all over the land ? War is dreadful but submission to injustice, oppression and cruelty is a greater evil. God is on the side of right and justice. His will be done.
My love to Henry, his father and all the friends.
From your loving sister,

A.M.Metcalf.
(Grandmother Metcalf.)

Elyria Jan. 26, 1865

My Dear Sister

I have delayed answering your letter of 12th Dec. longer than I intended. I intended to write to Sister Conant too before now. am sorry that I have not But I have been

(over)

not well myself. Isaac's wife was confined
latter part of Oct. She has another son (John M.P.)
Was sick and came 8 or 10 weeks not able to walk
at all. Little Anna Mayo the youngest girl was
sick too a while & some of the time we had poor
help & I worked too hard — early one morning I
fainted quite away & and falling hurt &
lamed myself. but am pretty well now
tho' not so strong as before.

Charles has sold his farm in Milo for (3500)
thirty five hundred dollars. has moved here onto
a much smaller one for which he gives 4500. is
all things considered very much better situated
than he was there: is near to meeting, to excellent
school, to R. Road Depot &c &c besides being near
to us which we think most of. He has very good
and promising children.

You tell me of Eliab's making you a present
Why did you not tell me what it was? He has been
spending 6 or 8 weeks in the employ of the C. C. (Christian Commission)
Says he enjoyed taking care of the poor wounded soldiers
in the hospitals, distributing books & papers —, writing
letters for them, holding prayer meetings every evening
&c &c he has doubtless been

[illegible] 31/86

[illegible]

Elyria July 31st /65

My dear Ester

I recvd your letter of June 25th very glad to hear you were all well — We are all in usual health I was unwell almost all of last winter but my health is quite good now — I am not near as fleshy as I have been am about as slim as when I was a girl. It seems you hear often from the Girls in California. Do you write to them & do you acknowledge the receipt of mine when you get it. I sent a letter to you in Feb. enclosing a two dollar bill & I don't know yet whether you received it or not. In that letter I mentioned some reasons why I suppose

you were, or ought to be; supplied with all you need for your comfort for the rest of your life.

Isaac has a great many Cousins for Money more by far I presume in proportion to his means than Luther Williams does.

I see by think that there are very few that do arrive in the way of their usefulness according to their ability than Isaac does there are hundreds of Christians (to say nothing of the poor freedmen) that are in more need than yours ..... You have been endeavoring all your life long to do good & trust in the Lord & so I hope & "Verily thou shalt be fed"

Since writing the above I have received your letter of the 5th

Jane — Anna — & Samuel
Clark spent a week with us
came here the 3 of this month
there was a great Celebration on
the 4th our Styrian Ladies provi-
ded a dinner for near a thousand
returned Soldiers — it being the
first town about the whole
county assembled here — Oration —
Speeches — & fire works in the evening
Sam'l Clark made us a present of a
canoe & Isaac took Charles two
horses & went to Grafton Station after
them 7 miles & carried them back
there on their returns. While there
had an excursion ... to the Lake
Isaac carried them
there — another day they all
went to the Junction of the two
branches of Blackriver
I think they enjoyed their visit
they went after leaving here

to Townsend to spend a week
with Mrs. Halderman

Our baby grows fat and is
named for Hattie Father Jeter
Pittman Cannot Daughter
Hattie Do NOT expect to be
married in about three weeks

Please write soon & let me
know whether you got my
last letter it is unanswered as
well as several others you know
not to neglect writing
especially if it contains
money —— Is it not wonderful
that we have spared so long in
life & health on the shores of time
Let us keep eternity in view &
be ready when called
Love to you all from H. M. H.

Warwick. December the 27.

Dear Cousin

I once more take the pen of correspondence and to converse with you upon religion
O my friend how little do I live up to what I profess
and how little progress do I make in living an holy
life, how dull and stupid do I live in regard to my
Dear Redemer how has done so much for so an unprofitable a creature as I am. I often think that I am an hindering block to others, and shall strengthen the hands of evil doers. Is it possable that heaven can be my home while it has so few of my thoughts. How can I love my Savior God with his superlative love and ever Heart so feebly affect my heart. If Jesus is mine and I am his why am I not constantly enraptured with his beauty and glowing with zeal for his cause. And I now desire to implore pardoning mercy of him how has said, him that cometh unto me shall in no wise be cast out. I think I do try to deny my self and to mortify my sins and lusts, than I ought to be more strict and resolut, I think I love God and am dispose to acknowledge him just and righteous in all his ways and merciful to all his followers. But I am to often discontented with my lot hear and to ready to pine at the hand of providence But when we revise what Blessings we enjoy more than some part of the human race I think we never ought to complain at any thing that takes place ever so controvary to inclination but we ought to be reconciled to our lot to hear and to thank our Heavenly Farther that our lains have fell to us in pleases so pesant What reason have I to rejoice that I am yet spared to plead for mercy. while thousands are called to bid a dieu to all things hear below in an unexpected hour that they think not of. And we know not whose turne it will be next for we have not a moment that we can call our one How necessary is then that we should be up and doing while the day last for the night of Death cometh when no man can work. And I ernestly wish for that wisdom that will enable us to evince to the world that we are followers of Christ. That we have fixed our hearts and affections on a brighter world than this, and I pray that our lives may so shine that may induse others seek our Blessed Redemer while he is to be found. O my friend we are sure to approach the Lords table if we are permitted that to commemorate the dying sufferings of our Savior we may come in that humble and penitent disposition of heart that we ought to in the sincere wish of my

Tally ho!

[illegible] my darling love. My mind is [illegible] back to the time when you was so dear to me the idol of my heart tho' more than four years have elapsed yet when I ponder the [illegible] scene the tears do not forget to flow how keen the anguish when the [illegible] last the [illegible] sound is dying and the [illegible] sorrow [illegible] to get relief from its [illegible] days

Miss Sally E. Hays

Care Maj. Warwick

Mrs Thomas Black

Warwick.

Dear Madam,

I am sincerely glad to find that the spirit of religion is reviving around you, & that the few who remain of the professed followers of Christ speak often one to another, & are endeavoring to resuscitate an interest in His cause.

Enclosed you have the dismission recommendations you requested — with our best wishes for your prosperity, especially in the things of GOD, & that you may see His kingdom flourish, & have the happiness of advancing it by your example & efforts.

Yours, respectfully & affectionately,
in the best bonds,

Wm. Jenks.

Dr. Jenks
Dec. 1841–

For

Mrs. Anna M. Metcalf,
Milo,
(Piscataquis Co.)
Maine.

Single.

Dear Sister Warwick Dec 25th 1847

I have not written to you since last winter and I dont know as I shall make out now but I will try. last winter my health was very good but in April I was taken with the influenza had a dreadful cough and sore mouth lost my appetite and suffered a great deal for 4 or 5 weeks but after I got up I was pretty well through the Summer about four weeks ago my well arm was taken lame it pained me nights but after I got warm I could work all day. till last week it was taken worse I was afraid I should I should entirely lose the use of it but it seems to be gaining now but it is very lame yet. if it had been the other arm I should had a Dact Seen it but that bunch dont trouble me any more than it did two years ago I suppose it grows some Mr C is pretty well for a man 72 but he is deaf and you know he never was like Aaron Ball in the house but Hannah does every thing She can for me So I am well all I suppose you no Esther has gone to Barnard She said she had been confined there 3 years and I suppose had to bear a good deal. She got a little nervous and fretful said she needed some change So She came here and stayed a while got all ready and Harvey carried her to Brattleboro the first day of Nov then She went in the stage but had to stay all day and all night in woodstock So it cost her something but I have had a letter She enjoyed the journey grandly She says I think they are glad to have her there but there is no chance for her to lay up any thing She works very diligently has a great desire to do good in the world and really has done a great deal of good in this town if She was here and well She would do me good now. I suppose you no Samuel buried his youngest child last winter they both felt the loss greatly it was certainly a lovely child 16 months old. Brother Joseph folks are all healthy and happy as usual Humphrey came home before thanksgiving they had all the children and grandchildren and Isaac came out that morning came up here but promised to go there to Supper So we could not keep him. Isaac is thought to be something here about by all that have seen him. Brother Says he likes his business and they like him very much. I dont no but you have various kinds of trouble but I do think you have great reason to be thankful that you have such a family of children you have had to be father and mother both as it were

now they have all got up and doing well able and willing to take
care of themselves and you too if you need. it is a bad feeling
to be helpless and dependent on others but that is what we must all
come to sooner or later. my sickness and lameness has allways been
short as yet and I have allway been taken good care of
Hannahs health is not very good but she works all the time the children
are rather slender Susan is 3 years old just such a lively nervous
thing as Abby used to be. I went over the river last Summer saw Mrs
Belden Ardelia and josephs children had a fine visit. Ardelia has
got a real good convenient house Mr B look as if he was most
wore out I dont think he will live many years She is a fine woman
has a pretty family I suppose Abby jerusha and Caroline are all very
well married. old Mrs Goldsbury is quite feeble Aunt Hazeltine
has got back lives with Mrs Reed Mrs Russell and Edward Mayo and
wife have been to see her. they say She looks just as She did 8
years ago Mrs Russell made me a good long visit last
Summer I have not been there since Esther and I went
Brottery and Spent the day before She went away Meriah is
keeping School I have not seen joanna lately they say She is
quite smart last time I went to meeting I heard Mr Hatch
I wish I could write something about matters in this town
but to tell the truth I dont know much more about
the town than you do. old Mr Brown and wife are on
the town She is entirely blind I hear from you sometimes
in a roundabout way but I want you should write me a
long letter and let me no something about every one
of your children and grandchildren
I help thinking but that you will See Warwick once more
I am really afraid you can not read what I have
written I must leave all good bye

from your affectionate Sister

A M

Betsey Conant

Aunt Conant
Dec. 29—1847.

From Betsy Conant
(AMSRM: 5182)

Warwick Mass
Dec 30

5

Mrs Anna M Metcalf
Milo

Maine

Sammon
Brother
Loer

Unity, Dec 1st 1850.

Respected & dear Madam,

It has been in my heart for some time past to answer yr kind letter; but I have been wandering about, & knew not where to ask you to direct a reply.

Having the prospect of tarrying for a while at least in this place I now write in the hope of hearing fr you & Mrs Searle or some one else of the gd folks about yr temporal & spiritual welfare & prospects. I have to acknowledge, in addition to yr letter, two pairs of woollen stockings fr the Ladies' Soc'y, I believe. Such proofs of kind remembrance, I can assure you, are exceedingly pleasant to me, & they will be pleasant to me in another sense, this Winter.

I feel very anxious to know how those who entertained a hope are prospering. Does Harriet still hold to her hope & give evidence that she has reason for so doing? Has James a hope & a gd ground for it? How does Mrs Priest prosper, & how is it with Susan Bumps? Do you know anything about Miss Sturtevant, & Marshy Drake & Marianne Richards? How is it with John yr Nephew (the family name I most strangely forget) & Mrs. Bragdon? There were two Boober girls who were somewhat serious; if you cd give me some information about them, it wd be most thankfully rec'd. I feel anxious to know how the ways of Zion have prospered since I left Milo, whom you now have laboring among you & what the hopes are that the people will enjoy the stated preaching of the word.

I desire a kind remembrance to Lucy, the little sister of James Searle, as well as to their Mother, also to the Lees, if they are still in town, the Bumpses, the Sargeants, the Ricks yr gd afflicted son & the Kilbreds, the Kimballs &c as you see them.

Yrs truly

L. Morris

Miss Maria Stevens

I shd be glad to know whether the Meetings are better attended than formerly, & whether any of those who indulged a hope while I was there or any others, indeed, have been added to any of the Chs.

Thus you perceive that my heart is full of questions & many, I must leave unasked because it is so slow work to ask them by means of pen ink & paper. I have a hard field here, but there is need of labor, & I am very well contented. I preach all the time in the same place, in a neat little Meeting house, capable of seating 300 persons, but it is by no means half filled as a general thing. People are not in the habit of going to meeting here, & the habit is yet to be engendered in them. I trust the Lord will remember us in our low estate, & pour out upon his H Spirit.

I have met yr son Isaac twice within a few weeks, & rode up with him last Saty fr. Bangor, where I had been making a visit. He appears the same as ever, & I trust will live to make a useful man. You may tell Mrs. Searle, if you please, that she need not be afraid to write me now, for I expect in a few months to be a married man.

With kind remembrances to inquiring friends, I remain

yrs truly

Charles Temple.

Please let me hear as early as possible, for I have for a great while been wishing to hear fr. Milo.

Post Office Department
Auditor's
Office

Paid 5

Miss Anna Metcalf
Milo
Maine

Paid.

Dec. 9 1850

Warwick Aug 1 1854

Dear Sister

I will try to write once more but I believe I wrote last and I have nothing special to write but if I could see you I should find enough to say. we have had some very hot weather this summer but very dull hay weather now there is a great deal of hay out spoiling Mr C has mowed and done a good deal of work he dont complain but little when the Sun shines but I know he suffers a great deal but he thinks he must work my health is very good for one 76 I am very clumsy my joints are very stiff and I have a great many poor nights but I dont have much house work to do no cheese to make just milk enough for butter so I have spun fifty skeins of stocking yarn since the first of July. every thing goes on with me quite easy at home as it always is but I have a great desire to see my friends and to go to meeting as I used to. but I am so deaf it dont do much good so I must bring my mind to my condition my eyes are good and I take a great deal of comfort reading the children are very good dont disturb me Sundays so on the whole I think I have much to be thankfull for Harveys health is not good but he works Henry is some better but does not work near all the time Susan and Horace have been to school all Summer but they have the chance of being very feeble Hannah is better than she was last winter so she works and worries most all the time about something or nothing but on the whole she is a good house keeper takes good care and does all she can to make the family comfortable Esther is well and fat and appears to be happy. I have been there once & she has been here once this Summer sometimes it is a great while I dont see her if it is about as hard for me to get there as for some to get to Boston but I write

Betsy Conant
Aug. 1 1854
80 yrs 2 mos

I have been to Northfield again with A Whitney had a good time went with Maria to see Mrs D She is well but looks poor and old She works hard lets her Girls all go off to earn something that boy is about the same old Mr Parsons had a brother like him that lived to be over 50 and never walked Maria has let the farm I don't much expect they will ever live there again Mr Russell left a will Fanny lived with him over 20 years and he gave her 5 hundred dollars and his Daughter and Edward and his wife the same and all the rest to William Edwards boy Edward has behaved worse than ever since his father died lay drunk day after day and some think William is about as bad he lives in Boston Mrs Russells children and his Girls persuaded her to waive the will and get her thirds it is in the lawyers hands now and she may not live see the end of it I had a letter from Barnard last week Sam'l is better than he was in the winter but Mary's health is poor I suppose he has have getting along alone I lives with his uncle White is good and steady they say I hope when you write, you will let me no all about your [illegible] sisters and grandchildren I want to no all about Almeida and her children I have thought of you this Summer I think you must have some noise living with five babies but I suppose they all love you and your Cousin Catharine is able to do her work Nathan has buried his youngest Daughter most 16 Tims wife is crazy but he keeps her rather than go to the poor house with her I hope if you do go to Ohio this fall you will come this way. be sure and write how you are going and all about it. how thankful we are every one ought to be that have good affectionate children to lean on I make bad work writing but you must read it if you can and be sure and write soon

from your affectionate Sister Betsey Conant

Joanna is very crazy again

Belly Barnard
Nov. 9 1857
Ely via

Warwick Nov 9 1857

Dear Sister I received your letter some time a-go and will try once more to write to you my health is good for one of my age but I know and feel that I am failing body and mind but I am thankful that I can get on and dwell my self alone and do my own work after a fashion and then set down and knit socks to sell but I have not so much ambition about work as I use to have Abel is about as usual does some work but complains a great deal thinks he shant live through the winter I think he would be low spirited sometimes if I did not often tell him how much we have to be thankful for. there has been no Death nor any severe sickness in our house for more than 43 years I think it remarkable. Harvey's health is not good but he works most of the time Hannah is much better than she was last winter She works very hard and would if She had but one to work for and two to help her. Henry has not been well a year lay again in his bowels and back has a relax often he is now taking some vegitable medicine that Joseph Draper sent him from Greenfield I think he is some better but has not much courage. Susan has been to the high school this fall She is a smart capable Girl Horace Mann is a tall good looked boy I suppose your folks out there do not feel the hard times but I guess they hear something about them from the papers it seems there never was such a time before I am afraid a great many that have to work for a living will suffer this winter if it is as cold as the two last winters were. but I suppose it is all right people have been very extravagant in dress and living for years and now we need something to humble us & make us feel our dependence

I lately had a letter from Samuel he and his wife are pretty well now Mary was very sick last Summer but is now teaching their winter School young Sammy was at home 2 or 3 week in august quite out of health and discouraged he has lived with his uncle White a good while learns the trade has had some wagery but Mr W has a great many ups and downs he has been doing well Sometime but I guess he is now pretty low I is there now but if he is able to work I dont no as he will ever get his pay his father is afraid he will get unsteady and go off to the west he is nineteen twenty years old Samuel says his farm run out fast while he was gone from it but says the crops were good last year and this except potatoes I hope he will be more contented I think if any one has a farm and something in the house and barn to eat they ought to be thankful he says one of his cows will make a pound of butter a day through the Summer Esthers health is very good and Mr W says he is well but he looks old and very poor Henry begins to look old has a good many sick turns I think they all have a good deal of patience with each other and get along very well Mr Chamberlain has been there made a long visit She gave E a dress and some other things and Mrs Child sent her a dress and ten dollars money which pleased her very much Mr Russell has not got through with her law Suit I am sorry for what she has done it will break friendships all round the laws of love is better I think than the love of laws I am sorry Sister H has got to go I am paid She wont tell a straight story they live in Northfield yet I dont expect they will ever live on the farm I guess it will be sold I thought you was in Mile till you wrote was expecting you along every day I hope if you come back while I live you will come this way and make a long visit but do write often is Almeda left with a good home are her children with her I wish I could see them it dont seem as if I could live through such a long Sudden journey as you did last Summer I have wrote a long letter and now you must guess it out if you can give my love to all friends from your affectionate Sister B Conant

I did not feel disappointed at what you wrote but thought you was 70 years old & began to fail

Thursday Morning

Dear home people. I am at
Ellis Island, where many
thing speaks of Lu. I would be
trying to sleep a little if I
can, but I must try first to
write & send a little word to you.
I wonder where the telegram
found Father this morning. I hope it
was at Lou, where Mother and
Nelson could comfort him.
Harold tries to look at every
thing as Ethel would & will be
strengthened I trust.

You will want to know more
than the telegram could tell
you. Ethel had written perfectly
well until yesterday, but in

[illegible] anything [illegible] until about
five o'clock - Even then, when
Sent him for a doctor, was very
slight. When he came back
She was unconscious & did
not come from that state at
all, that I think he told me she
spoke his name once. But
tho' she left no sign, we
all know where her heart was;
It is so good to one to remem-
ber how she never had seemed
to fear death, but quiet to
see beyond the shadow.

Harold plans to bring Lorna, starting to-morrow night.
You would wish that, wouldn't
you - and she would? It
seems so to me, & Harold
seems to prefer it -

I shall wait & come with
them. I will write again
but come you can get this
soon - And if dear one
don't refuse to be comforted
— She strives [illegible]

I must send this -

Net

4125-196

Brownville, Me.
Aug. 20, 1961

Dear Cousin Antoinette:

Enclosed (at last) are 2 copies of the letter I told you about. We found it to be very interesting.

Enclosed also is a letter dated 1908 which you may remember.

Warren looked up the "Cast of characters" after transcribing the letter from the original, which he still has.

Affectionately,
Stinkney, Rachel

You have heard of the "woman who lived in the shoe"

But are you aware that this story is true

In more than one case? Do you know there are others

Very generously favored — for instance with brothers?

And you who have ten must feel very lucky,

Yet I who have none, though persistent and plucky

Would constantly fear that my counting might err

If suddenly asked just how many

(over)

THERE WERE.

So THIS COUNTING MACHINE, WHICH I'M SURE I SHOULD NEED MAY HELP YOU SOME TIME — I HOPE SO INDEED.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS,
MISS METCALF.

Dear Antoinette;

We want you to know that we all feel, as we have always felt, that we have no claim whatever on Marion,s property. Marion far more than fulfilled, many years ago, any obligation that may have come with it from Father. She gave it to you without reserve and we think you should feel that it is yours to do with as you find best, with no strings of any kind tied to it. We hope you will use it accordingly, first for your own need and comfort, and thereafter as you see fit, and certainly with no feeling of obligation to any of us younger brothers.

Mayo Metcalf - St Louis May 14 1931

Edw Metcalf — St Louis May 14 1931

S A Metcalf — Lakewood O 5/16/1931

Keyes D. Metcalf — White Plains, N.Y. 5/19/31

T. N. Metcalf — Ames, Iowa 5/24/31

ANTOINETTE METCALF

1873-1962

Antoinette B. P. Metcalf, first Reference Librarian at Wellesley College, died March 1, 1962 in her 89th year. Born in Elyria, Ohio, she was one of thirteen surviving children. Her great love of the family was deepened, perhaps, because after her graduation from Oberlin College in 1893, she returned home for eight years to help "raise" the five smallest brothers after the loss of their mother. Following their father's death, the eldest sister, Wellesley 1880, and later a teacher at Wellesley, assumed the headship of the family and Miss Antoinette entered Pratt Institute Library School. She obtained her certificate in 1902 and remained as Reference Librarian for two years. She

WELLESLEY ALUMNAE MAGAZINE

became the first Reference Librarian at Oberlin in 1904, took her Master's Degree there in 1908 and accepted the position of first Reference Librarian at Wellesley in 1910.

Early that first year she was greatly troubled because she felt her services were not being used enough. She soon proved the value of a reference librarian and never again complained of not being busy. She was made Associate Librarian in 1917 and Associate Emeritus when she retired in 1939. Surely everyone at Wellesley, during the years that she presided over the Main Reading Room from her raised central desk, will remember with especial gratitude, the quiet, firm, precise and helpful friend who was Antoinette Metcalf.

From 1916 she lived with Elisabeth Hodder at 26 Leighton Road. She spent two years in Europe, one accenting Germany, the other, Italy, with three summers in Europe, one in England and many at Pemaquid Point, Maine.

Miss Metcalf was a faithful and devout member of the First Church of Boston, Unitarian. The understanding with which young Mr. Williams conducted her funeral service reflected her strong character and influence.

Although she gave much of her life to reference work, she never wrote for publication. Her only independent research was done as a member of The Saturday Morning Club of Boston. Of that work, Mrs. Rugg, the corresponding secretary, said, "Miss Metcalf's papers were the most scholarly and most deeply thought out of any presented." After their retirement from the College, she and Mrs. Hodder had a stall at the Widener Library in Cambridge. Once a week, as long as they were able, they went there to do research for their Club papers and to work jointly on material for two books that Mrs. Hodder hoped to publish.

Fifteen months ago Miss Metcalf's heart condition demanded care and she entered Webb House Nursing Home. From her sunny room, supplied with books, magazines, papers and flowers she continued her intellectual interests, many contacts by mail and her devoted care of Mrs. Hodder, also a patient.

Antoinette B. P. Metcalf was modest, dignified, gallant and generous. She had a twinkle in her eye and a love for all things beautiful. She was staunch, sincere, and unselfish, a true friend whose life personified the motto of Wellesley College . . . Non Ministrari sed Ministrare.

—Louise P. Holden, '25

Issue of May 1962

The industrialization and the population transformations of northern and eastern Asia are proceeding swiftly, even if demographers are as unobserving as were the economists of an earlier period who failed to note the industrial revolution that was then occurring. Migrations of people, capital investments, and productivity alike attest the rapid growth of major industrial complexes and their associated facilities in eastern Siberia and the Soviet Far East. Japan is already industrialized, with a high rate of economic growth and a major need for expanding markets. Mainland China has been and may again move forward rapidly, with the north and the northeast as the major areas of industrial advance. If economic development and the resolution of the problems of population growth proceed swiftly in the once under-developed communist countries of this region, political choices may be determined for the peo-

Issue of MAY 1962

my health, spent some time in California, from there studied two years in Dresden, took courses at various intervals at the Sorbonne and finally graduated from Chicago University in 1901. After that I taught French in the University High School until 1910 when I married E. N. Carter, a superintendent in the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries. Since his retirement we have lived in Louisiana, Wyoming—his old home—and here in California. We have one daughter, a graduate of Occidental College, and two grandchildren. We have lived an uneventful but happy life. I am well for my age except that my eyes are failing and I am quite deaf. We are interested especially in music and books."

94 (No Class Secretary)

Died: Marie *Adams* Ballord, March 19, after a long illness. She lived in Minneapolis for fifty-eight years, was a member of the Wellesley Club, the D.A.R., the Colonial Dames and Daughters of the Founders and Patriots, and the Woman's Club. She is survived by her husband, John G., and a son, both of whom live in Minneapolis.

95 (No Class Secretary)

Bequest: Helen *Dennis* Given (Mrs. Emery W.), who died on April 9, 1961, has bequeathed to Wellesley College $7,000, of which $2,000 is to be used as a memorial for Grace E. Cooley, '85, former Associate Professor of the Department of Botany.

The College has received a gift in memory of Florence *Shirley* Marden.

97

MISS HARRIET H. BROWN
6 Wilkinson St.
Putnam, Conn.

A gift to Wellesley College has been made in memory of Eva *Guy* Wing.

We have just heard that Anna *McKee* of Ashmont, Pa., died June 16, 1961. The information came to the Alumnae Office from the Presbyterian Home where she had been living.

Died: Geneva Crumb, in Schenectady, N. Y., March 21.

"Miss Crumb was bedridden for only two weeks at the time of her death. She was born in 1872, and for the past year and a half had been living with her nephew, Mr. R. F. Wyer of Rexford, N. Y. In spite of her advanced years, she had an active intellectual interest in many things. Wellesley College and its welfare were foremost among these interests. Although she did not attend Schenectady Wellesley Club meetings, she took part in its activities by helping with secretarial work which she could do at home, and by encouraging its projects. Before moving to Rexford in September, 1960, she had made her home in St. Louis. There she was on the board of the League of Women Voters, active in the Wellesley Club, the Unitarian Church, and worked on behalf of the Missouri Botanical Garden.—Barbara *Nolan* Rappaport, '44.

Geneva *Crumb's* college memory book has been having interesting adventures lately. After Geneva went to live with a favorite nephew in Rexford, near Schenectady, N. Y. the president of the Schenectady Wellesley Club came to call. She asked to borrow the scrapbook to show as a "special feature" (so she announced) at a club meeting. She was so enthusiastic that Geneva afterward offered the book to the college library, and the research librarian accepted it. It is unusually complete.

ELYRIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

HIGH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT.

Record of Scholarship of Nettie P. Metcalf *while a member of the School.*

FIRST YEAR.		SECOND YEAR.		THIRD YEAR.		FOURTH YEAR.	
Latin,	91	Latin,	93	Latin,	97	Latin,	98
English Language,		English Language,		~~English Course~~:		Dr Synectute ~~English Course~~:	98
Algebra, {Av. of quarterly Ex.		Algebra {Review of the whole book	99	10th Year Greek	97	5th Year Greek	98
Physiology,	93	Arithmetic,	87	Chemistry			
Zoology,	89	American History	96	Geometry—		Rhetoric,	99
Botany,	98	~~Book-keeping~~,		Plane & Solid,	97	English Literature,	
		Natural Philosophy,		General History,	97	Geology,	
MONDAY LITERATURE:		MONDAY LITERATURE:		Science of Government,	90	Astronomy,	
Irving's Sketches,	96	Goldsmith–Vicar of Wakefield,		MONDAY LITERATURE:		Arithmetic, Grammar, Geography } Review,	98
Dicken's Ch'mas Tales,	96	Longfellow—Poems,	97	Tennyson—Poems,	99	MONDAY LITERATURE:	
Scott's Ivanhoe,	98	Thackeray—The Newcomes,		Hawthorne—House of Seven Gables,	97	Shakespeare's Plays,	89
Composition,	93	Composition,	96	Milton—Poems,	97	Thackeray's English Humorists,	
Declamation,	94	Declamation,	96	Composition,	96	Composition,	96
		Roman History	96	Declamation,	96	Declamation,	96
		Greek History	96				

I Certify the above record to be Correct.

D. H. Parker *Sup't.*

Elyria, Ohio, June 19 1889.

Rome Dec 25. 1854

Dear Sister Anna,

I have but little time to write this Evening, and moreover I believe I am not in debt to you; but think I must write a little letter "nae theless". A letter from Isaac came last Saturday. He writes that he hopes to get away immediately after the 26th. and will return by way of Elgin. says he may be obliged to stop some days in Chicago. and in New York city also. it may be. I do hope not long, for you can imagine I suppose that I am impatient to see him. These last weeks do seem so long. But have I not Every thing to make me glad and thankful? If he only comes at last safe, and well, and finds us in health, what more can I ask? Isaac said Charles was coming by way

I am sure I am thinking a little like Tom does, for Sarah - Dorothy and Ruth wrote to me about a month ago, and I answered their letters. Have not received any answer yet. Love to all. Ever yours

your home too - I suppose you have seen him long before this, and that he is now in Niles - What a happy family they must be - Albina will think her troubles are all ended: I have good news from Bangor & Emily frequently - I should like to step in and sit with mother and Lucy some of these afternoons - Isn't it good that dear little Percie is so well - I am longing to see him and the little "F. E. R". I like the name now, better than the first: Do not you? Mattie must enjoy the winter much with both her sisters. I am glad they can be with her - She is a dear Mattie I think.

How are Hattie & Libbie this winter and what are they doing? A great deal of love to them. I wonder if you have had any cold weather this winter? We have; and snow besides - It is piled up splendidly all about us, and I do delight to ride - The drifts are in

every imaginable shape - steeples &
towers and palaces - now a smooth
surface, and now like the waves of
ocean - I do love to look at them - I know
I've seen the same kindness of tints
before, but it all seems new, this
winter, and more than ever beautiful -
perhaps because I've been two winters
where the snow is minus, and they have
rain instead.

Isaac has attended meeting since you
saw him - He is usually very well
& running about everywhere - He is
fondly still from morning till night
- has one little nap - seldom more than
one hour and often even less.

Isaac tells that you have been
enjoying a visit - from the son living
in Penn with his family - You must
have been quite busy I think - I hope
you are all well - I shall hear all
about you by Isaac, when he comes
Is "Lottie" well? I should love to be
better acquainted with her - I enclose

with this a letter for Isaac - I presume it will reach Elyria in season for him -

In haste, but with much love to you all -

Lisbon Bolles -

Nettie

April 54

Quincy, Apr. 10, 1854

My dear Mother,

This is the first time I have made an attempt to use a pen since this last attack of illness, and my hand goes zigzag - I can hardly control it at all. I am very much better than I was a week since but my strength is weakness yet. I gain however every day I think. This is Monday morning. Charles was here as usual to spend Sabbath and Samuel also. It is a real comfort to have Charles here - to have him come into our room and talk about you all. He has gone this morning back to his work. This is a cold blustering morning. It is cold at least compared with the bright, warm, sunny days of last week. Every day was fine. Edae was at home all the week and we went to ride every day. The wild flowers are beginning to bloom in the woods, the grass and Spring wheat are beautifully green, peach and apple trees are in blossom. Pear trees & Cherry also - Everything about us looks like a new made world. O I do enjoy the Spring - Each as it comes, seems to me the most delightful of all. I suppose

[redacted] with you.
[redacted] getting [redacted] and they seem to
trouble him considerable, so that it is harder
to take care of him just now. Two teeth are through.
He creeps all over the floor, very fast indeed
loves to scrabble for the door when it is open
and sit close to it and look out at the cows
and the chickens, jabbering and crowing to
them the while in baby way. He is delighted
if he can get to my work basket and tip it over.
Thinks it is the finest plaything he can get
hold of. He loves dearly to be on the floor and it is
so warm now that I do not fear to have him
on it. He has on the little warm soft stockings
you sent him this morning. We are wanting
to see the little ones at Niles. Charlie must be
quite an important member of the family.
Going to be a Rail Road man is he? Well, perhaps
he may be. He seems to be quite a business char-
acter. — I have been reading Gallaudet's Scripture
Biography. Moses, David &c. They are very full
of interest, and make me love more than
ever, the Historical part of the Bible. Moses is
one of the most interesting characters of the
series. I never thought before how much
there was to admire, and wonder at in
his character.

Dearest [redacted]

Most affectionately
Isaac

{Evening}

Isaac has been in the office all day long with some dozen men settling accounts and paying away monies and he is completely wearied out and says he has no brains left so I do not see but he must be excused from writing. I shall feel sadly to have him out here alone. I am so fearful lest he should exert himself too much in the warm days and become sick. But I hope he will be careful. he says he means to be so. Mr Roots of Mt. Hawkins, where Isaac first boarded has been in to day — came to bring Isaac the months stock of money. He sat in our room some time. says I must be sure to get very well indeed before I go back East and not carry any Evil report of a good country. His family are quite healthy here. Birdie Mayo has gone to sleep. He usually sleeps finely all night — and sometimes till quite late in the morning. but he does not sleep much in the day. I am trying to sew some again now, but — I dare not attempt much lest I make myself sick again. It is hard to get any help about sewing here. indeed it is next to impossible. I shall only do what-

must be done [redacted] till I am home.
Isaac is one of the [redacted] in the whole
world. I know he is a [redacted] about as good a doctor
as anybody. I believe he has done more than
all the doctor could do to make me well, and
we have quite a good physician too.

Mr Keyes is preparing the milk - it goes
very early in the morning, and I must not
keep him waiting. Love to all, from

Nettie.

Miss Nettie Hall
Hall Mich

1854

Annie T. H.
To Anna H. H.
Oct 9 1856

A. P. M. Mother.

Livingston, Oct 9. 1856

My dear Mother –

It seems strange to write Oct. for it is hot as a day in July. Isaac has gone to Concord and Jenny with him. They had a stopping to do & then the State Fair is holden there just now. So it is a busy day for us who are at home. Hannah can do nothing when Baby is awake but care for him unless she does it with him in her arms. He is getting his upper teeth and his bowels are considerably disturbed & he is so fretful that it takes about all one person's time to take care of him. The doctor says a change of air would

Consumption more than any thing else
so on his account - we feel anxious to
get away - But it will be a trial to go
leaving mother so feeble - Father is
gaining fast now and will doubtless
soon regain accustomed health - But
I feel my anxious about mother -
Now and then a day I feel Encouraged
and the next - discouraged again -
The dysentery with her, has become
chronic or perhaps changed to
diarrhea - As for myself I gain
very slowly - I had not much strength
to boast of before - I was sick, and
now my limbs will hardly support
me about the house - The least
exercise beyond my strength gives
me diarrhea - But I think I do gain
a little, and hope to ere gain faster.

O! how I would love to see you and talk with you! Your letters have done us so much good - I know that you are lonely indeed, and you can't feel what a blank it is in our hearts - So strange and empty the whole house looks - dear little Wilder alone. You know how we miss them more & more Each day. I do rejoice in the midst of sorrowing when I think that dear Laura is with me still - Yes, I could lose all the dear children, much as I love them, Easier, far - Laura. How I could part with him. O how thankful I was that he escaped with so light an attack of the disease, and that I was not so sick as the doctors so that it was not so hard to take care of me - I think a journey would benefit us all. so the Dr.

leaves, and we shall light as soon as he thinks it will do for me to ride.
I should dearly love to be with you at Bangor this winter, if had not our arrangements been made beforehand so that it was difficult to change, I think we should have gone there.
Kiss dear little P. P. & all the children for me. I shall write to Albina as soon as I can. I am glad the clothes fit. The old pair of pants I thought he could wear up at Uncle Thomas's & then they would do to mend the other pair with. Dear little Mary never wore a two little plaid ones. They were finished just as he was taken sick. We thank you for the beautiful pocket you sent us. Pray dear mother that we may do [illegible] on earth that we may go to our precious ones though they can never come to us.
Much love to all from
Your Ever loving Nellie

Nellie P. Mitchell
to Anna M. Bixby
Nov 1858

Elyria, Ohio -
Saturday Eve. Nov. 13, 1858.

My dear mother, -

It seems a long time since I have myself written to you - indeed I have not written many letters of late to any one: but I have thought of you and loved you all the while. I am all alone with the children this evening. Isaac is down town, the girls are out - and Rollin down to his uncle's to see his sick mother. Wilder is sleeping nicely; but Charley wakes every few moments. He has taken some cold, and finds it hard to breathe easily. It does seem strange to see our baby Charley trudging about the house on his own feet. We have

handly become accustomed to it - yet, though he dines quite at home kindly - Wilder delights to lead him about - makes him go too fast and fall sometimes. We went to Cleveland last week - bought Wilder a regular little over coat; drab, trimmed with drab velvet - Got him too, a box of lettered blocks, which seemed to take his mind more than the coat - He tried the coat on, walked about a little and then said, "Well now, lets take it off, and lay it away in the drawer". He has not sucked his thumb since those things came. He says, "I used to suck my thumb when I was a little boy; but - I'm a big boy now, and dont suck it a bit".

He wanted to know the other day if Jesus Christ went

right-straight up into heaven
when he went away from the
Earth, and if the the cover was
up, so that he did'nt-burn
his head- He is very full of questions
Anna & I have some new furs.
She will tell you about them, I
suppose- bought at Cleveland
for $52.50- Cape set & cuffs
never sold before for less than
$65.00. We did not get muffs-
They would have been $10.00
extra- I am dreading to
wear mine- If I had my
old ones, I was saying to Susan,
I should have worn them
several times before now, &
the prospect is for a very cold
day to-morrow- It is very cold
this Evening- Isaac has come
He says the Dr told Anna if
she did not- wear her furs
tomorrow, she should not go to

meeting with him! We talk of having a Sewing Machine together, Annie and I. I have been very busy indeed sewing - Charley wore out two or three dresses entirely while creeping - I have finished two blue ones for him & blue, out of the two blue ones he wore last winter and the crimson & black that was Libby's - like Percy's waist - And have two more thicker ones partly made. Wilder wears sacks & pants - has three every day sack aprons - one handsome plaid sack - These, with thin under clothing, and various mending & making for the rest of us have kept me employed - I am making me sack and cape for best now - outside garment - It is a crimson & black, plaid flannel

I only want to tell you one or two of Wilder's sayings. A few nights ago he did not feel very well, and was told he could ask God to make him better. Next morning he was about as well as Ever. He was asked if he had thanked God for making him well. He looked up with a very pleased face and said "There He did, didn't He."

Night before last, he was walking on the verandah with me, while I wheeled baby to sleep in the carriage. Isaac & Jenny both gone to meeting. He took his thumb out of his mouth, and pointed up, and said "that is the sky, way up there. Are God & good People up there"? Pretty soon he said. "I should'nt dare to die. said it two or three

times before I understood him -
I asked him why - He said "because
I couldn't walk there, and I
should not be here - I should
be away off - I don't know what -
made him talk so, unless he
was remembering what was told
him when the little Rood children
died - that they were dead and
buried up in the ground and
couldn't see their father and
mother here any more. He
begins to ask many questions.

Jenny is going to leave us in the
course of a month - She is studying
Arithmetic at home now.

A great amount of love to
Almeda - Lizzie & James - I should
so love to have them near us - Perhaps
it may be so - Charley calls -

Lovingly, Nettie

Carly can say Papa & Mama -

Try to help father, and Eliza too
as much as you can -
Loving mother -

- Fanny -

Dear Charlie -

I thank you & Mildred greatly for your letters - I meant to write to you, this time, but I must - let it go till next time, for the letter must go to the Office - Will you kiss Emma & John for me? I think you & Mildred like the boy but I boys now Mother is gone - Do you get your clothes torn much?

Dumbarton, Jan. 19. 1850.

Will my friend please accept my thanks for the beautiful and valuable book just presented? I had never seen it before. It will certainly afford much pleasure and instruction, in connection with the perusal of Shakspeare. I do not progress very rapidly in reading Shakspeare, as my time for reading is quite limited at present. I have been absent from home so much, that now, parents, brothers and sisters, claim considerable of my time. And besides, I am reading each play twice, and now shall add to this, Mrs. Jamison's "Characteristics". The art of discerning between the good and bad, in the books we read, is of great importance; is it not sometimes a very difficult thing. So often does error appear in the garb of truth, and so much buried truth is there, amidst the rubbish of error.

The feelings expressed in your letter are reciprocated. If visiting me, or writing to me, can increase, in any degree, your enjoyment, I should be happy to have you do so. I do not expect to find friends

perfect in mind or manners, and often wonder, when considering my own defects, why kind Heaven has granted me so many and so worthy ones. But it is my part to be grateful for them, and endeavor always to merit their esteem, and profit by their superiority. Your manners and conversation, if now, as you have expressed it, but half formed, promise much for the future. But what are they to the "warm, true heart within"? Can more delightful is it, to "find and stir its depths" than to admire pleasing manners, or imposing address. I know full well, in my own experience, what it is to feel much more than shrinking nature will permit me to express, by word or act. Can we not, in this respect, make mutual allowance? And in this, I do most certainly feel that your charity and forbearance will be far the most severely tasked. Should you know me better, as I am willing should be the case, if you desire it to be so, I am sure you will discover much, I fear more than you think, to be corrected and forgiven.

Shall be happy to hear from you, and to see you, whenever convenient.

Antoinette

Antoinette B. P. Dunlaton
Jan. 19. 1850

Mrs. J. G. Shattuck
Galveston

Dunbarton, March 14, 1850—

My dear Friend,—

I welcomed your letter this afternoon, in the midst of whitewashing and papering, and, of course, left everything and ran away to read it. I think you were very kind to write so speedily. I was hoping to hear from you to day, but tried not to expect too strongly, lest, with your many duties, you should be obliged to delay. I am very glad you succeeded in performing your part of the service at Newport, so pleasantly to yourself and so satisfactorily to all. Mr. Chase is much favored in having an aid in whom he can so safely confide. The Report you sent came to day. I certainly hope the Road will be completed, and that you will remain in New-Hampshire, so that we may often have the pleasure of your society.

Probably you are now enjoying much, in the society of treasured friends—mother, sisters, brother and perhaps others. Hope you find your brother im-

As I would. Have it. But it seems to you not to be mighty in its consequences. They cannot reach Washington time and through to eternity. But I do not for one moment direct, and I do not for you have done so. And when I think of this, I am glad you will be well. Dellen, of your friend would be very welcome while a long call. This I should, Emily more than I think I shall when I am

Yours,

Grace Anstinville

proving in health. Mother thinks she knows somewhat how to sympathize with him —

The afternoon after you left here, my brother and I, very suddenly decided to go to Epsom and Banstead, to visit an Uncle at Ep— and a school mate of mine, at the latter place. We left home about two o'clock, and arrived at uncle's residence at six in the evening. At three o'clock, Wednesday afternoon, we started for Banstead, where we found ourselves after a pleasant ride of about 15 miles. Brother Ge— intended to return home Thursday, and leave me to come by stage, but the storm prevented his returning until Friday and in consequence of this, I thought it better for me to come home with him, so we were both back again Friday night. We had long contemplated this little journey, and have finally accomplished it. My father was once settled in Epsom, and it is my native place.

Since I came home, I have been rather more busy than usual, in household matters. Mother and I are having considerable to do for brother, before he goes away, which will be in a week or two. He has been papering and whitewashing the room we live in, and I helped him about it, all I could. We are just nicely through with it.

March 16th. My letters are often somewhat in the journal style - I seldom finish one with a single date, especially when at home.

This is a very clear and beautiful day, and I have just been out to enjoy its sunshine, but it is not very pleasant walking, for the snow is rapidly taking its departure, and it is, of course, rather wet. I was quite glad to get back to the house.

I have engaged to teach a small school about two miles away, which is to commence the 20th of May, and continue 10 weeks, and perhaps a week or two longer. I thought of your advice to me, when I gave my affirmative answer, but this is so near home, that father and mother seemed to favor it, and on the whole to think it better for me to take it. — Mrs. Parker and Mrs. Chase called here last Monday. Mrs. P. came to know if I would teach a private school in Coppstown, before the Summer Term commences. I hardly think, however, they will succeed in obtaining sufficient scholars, and I rather hope they will not; though it would be a very pleasant school for me. I think I should enjoy it.

— I hope you may realize fully all the happiness that you have been imagining. I almost tremble when I think what I have said and done - not that I regret it, or would retract one word, for it is all

Dunbarton N.H.
March 16

5

Mr. I. S. Metcalf,
Bangor,
Maine.

A. B. P. D.
March 16, 1850

Mrs. March 1850

A.

Goffstown

April 6. 1850

Goffstown, April 6, 1849.

My dear friend,—

My first duty this morning shall be to commence a reply to your good, kind letter. As my date tells you, I am at Goffstown, and this day will close the third week of my school here. The very day I mailed my letter to you, I received a line from G.—stating that efforts to obtain scholars had been successful, and desiring me to commence school the next week Tuesday, March 13. Accordingly, I came hither, and began with 28 scholars. The number is now increased to 38. There have been 41 different ones. This is twice the number I expected, or cared to have,—but probably some of the older ones will leave, as the farmer's Spring work advanced. Spring seemed really here when this week commenced. The ground was almost entirely bare, and in some places the grass began to look green—but we have since had quite a snow storm. Not very much, however, now remains on the ground,—but the travelling is very rough

April 16. 1850

I expect to board here while I teach. Mrs. Dunlap is a widow lady—Mr. Dunlap died last Spring. I shall board at Mrs. Moore's next term. George Parker, and Mr. Luther Hadley.—A.

and bad - neither sleighing nor wheeling - A worse time could not be, for school - but the scholars have been very regular this far - more so than I had any idea they would be at this season.

I am boarding now, at - Mr. Brooks Hadley's - This is the house nearest - to school - I may be here all the time, but - when I came, I expected to board at three or four places - The travelling is such, that it - is better for me to be near - They are so kind as to carry me, even this short distance, some of the time - My school is pleasant, and I am much interested in it - O how great - a teacher's responsibility - Certainly no one more needs aid which Earth can never afford - I never felt this more, and I do hope I may be the means of doing some good, not merely to the minds, but to the precious, immortal souls of those with whom I daily mingle - But it - is almost nine o'clock, and I must - flee me away to my school room duties - I have some lessons to look over a little this morning -

(Evening) My task is done, for the day and for the week, and now I come to talk again with you. I did hope to have gone home to night, to spend the Sabbath, but - am obliged to relinquish the idea. Mother wrote me yesterday, that Father would

come for me next Friday, as there will be no school next Saturday.

I was very much interested in your account of the little band of Christians at Lilo, and their meetings. A blessing must attend them, if they continue to persevere amidst so much to discourage. May they never be "weary in well doing". I think I never before heard Mr. Willy preach as well as now. Perhaps his many trials have proved blessings in disguise. The people have been making some extra effort to retain him, and I presume he does not now think of leaving.

There is, at present, a vacation in the Sabbath School. Miss Jamieson's class, however, continue their recitations, and one other class, of little girls. Mrs. Blaisdell has taken Miss Jamieson's place since she left town.

I have just been writing a negative reply to a letter, received yesterday, from Lockport, Ills. containing a request to me to return, and take charge of the same school I left two years since.

Perhaps you will see the letter sometime, so I'll not write much about it.

I was sorry to know that your brother was no better. But how pleasant it is for you, and

your friends, that he endures what must be a great affliction, with so much fortitude. I do hope he will get be fully restored.

Miss Cook - the young Lady who had been sick so long - of whom you heard us speak when you were last at D— - died just three weeks since. It is just three weeks to day, since I assisted in arraying for the tomb, her lifeless Body, - the frail casket - where a priceless jewel had so recently departed. It was the first time I ever aided in a duty so mournful, and I hope it did me good. I should be sorry if it did not. Death never before seemed to me so solemn a reality. Miss C. was uniformly cheerful, through her sickness, and seemed happy and resigned, to the last moment. She took both her Father's hands, just before she died, and said to him, "Father, I am going, and I'm willing". I have thought, many times since, how full of meaning were those words.

I am reading "Washington and His Generals" now, but I make slow progress - find very little time to read.

You recollect perhaps that Jack Frost assailed my rose bush, a number of times last Winter, and made it look very disconsolate. I wish you could see it now - it has two beautiful little buds.

I had almost forgotten to tell you that I had a nice ride in the cars to Manchester, about a week since. I enjoyed it much. There were 52 persons in the car that morning, I believe.

I need not tell you that I should be happy to see you, or, if this may not be at present, to hear from you again -

Yours ever -

Antoinette -

A.B.P. to J.S.M. — Dunbarton N.H.
April 27. 1850

Dun. Barton, April 27. 1850.

My dear friend, —

This delightful Saturday afternoon, I am enjoying at home in my own quiet Dunbarton. I came from Goffstown early this morning. had a very pleasant ride. Yes. to-day and to day have seemed really like Spring, more so than any days we have had before. So warm and sunny. and then the grass begins to look quite green, in some places. How pleasant it is to see so many tokens of returning Spring. This morning I listened to the joyous songs of the sweet little birds, tile, I fancy, I felt almost as light and happy as the merry little creatures themselves. You speak of its being very cold where you have been. It has been so here, until within a few days. When I was at home two weeks ago, it was snowy and very windy all day Saturday, and cold as winter. I rode down to school Monday morning in a sleigh. Mother was then quite unwell. Her eyes have been, for two or three weeks so much inflamed, that she has been unable to use them at all. But I find her now much better. though not well. I have decided, since I came home, to close school at

Mary Woodbury for Miss [illegible] Egypt N. Hampton N.H.
Milo May 6. 1850

5, next - week. Father and Mother think I shall need two weeks of rest, before commencing my Summer School and I am quite willing to take them, myself. So I shall probably be at home in just - one week from now, to remain two weeks, - and myself and parents, would be very happy to receive a visit from you, at that time, unless your arrangements are such that you cannot leave conveniently. We should be very glad to see you, at any time, and my school will be so near home that I shall be at home every week, and often, when there is anything to call me.

Of course, we shall not expect to see you at present if you decide to go to New - Brunswick. You say I must advise you - Well. I will as well as I can - I should like to have you do just as you think will be for the best. It would be very pleasant, could you be located in New Hampshire I have hoped it might be so - and it may be yet - but - if duty seems to call you elsewhere, I shall be satisfied.

You ask how I should like to live, for a time, in New-Brunswick The idea is not an unpleasant one to me. I could be happy in almost any situation, could I feel that I was useful, or doing good to any one. I think one ought to be willing to go where there seems the greatest prospect of usefulness — I believe I have identified my interests with yours, so much that, in whatever situation Providence shall place you, if you are happy, I can be so too. —— I believe I have now but 31 regular scholars, and consequently my labor in school, is not as wearisome

as at first— I was at Mr. Parker's last week, and shall be there one or two days more. Fanny is a dear girl— one could not help loving her. We had a very pleasant walk together, last Friday, after school— went to the woods in search of mayflowers. We found an abundance of leaves and buds, but not a single blossom— so we loaded ourselves with evergreen instead.

It was Mrs. Francis Chase, who called here with Mrs. Parker. I think her a very pleasant lady— should suppose she had considerable energy and resolution,— though I have hardly seen her enough to form any opinion correctly.

Neither have I become much acquainted with the other Mrs. Chase— Mrs. Parker has another boarder now— a Mr. Johnson, came there last week. Mr. Parker's family often speak of you, with interest.

26. Sabbath. I have been at meeting all day. The weather has been pleasant— and a good many people were out. Since I came home, I have been thinking of those little meetings at Milo, and wondering whether you had read a sermon from the National Preacher, to-day. It seems you are supplying the place of a minister, now, to the interesting little band of Christians there. I am glad this opportunity is afforded, in which you may so greatly benefit yourself and others. I hope success will attend the efforts making to secure preaching this summer, and that it may prove the means of the salvation of many.

Last week we received the best of intelligence, from relatives residing in Bridgewater and Westboro', Mass. In those towns, and others in the vicinity of them, God's

spirit, with its "still small voice", is working wonders. Five dear cousins are already hoping that they have found the Savior. This is good news to us. — There seems, at present, to be no special interest here, in regard to this most important of all subjects, — but we hope there are blessings yet in store for us.

Monday morning. It rains very fast indeed this morning. Perhaps it will cease before eight o'clock comes. We must start about that time for Coopstown. But if it does not we must make the best of it: we can "carry our sunshine with us". Father is going with me.

The summer school I have taken will continue ten or eleven weeks. I know not, definitely, which. It is my intention not to make further engagements of the kind, without your approval.

Should you be stationed at New-Brunswick, how long shall you probably remain? If you go there, I shall feel quite anxious to hear about your situation, and how you are pleased with it. I hope your brother's Guardian will not forsake him, when you leave. He will, of course, feel the loss of your society. It seems your mother spends most of her time at Milo. I should love to hear more about her, and your sisters. think they must be good.

Your letter reached me the 25th. Many thanks for it: and may I not hope for another soon? — Father and mother send their kind regards to you, with many good wishes for your prosperity.

Yours ever —

Antoinette —

Dumbarton May. 22, 1850

Ashcroft

June 2 1858 Duncan

A. Dunbarton July 8

Milo, July 1850

St Dunbarton N.H

July 31. 1850

Newbury N. H. Aug. 2. 1850

Home - Aug 17 - 1860 -

My dear friend, -

When I came home from school last night, I fully intended to have mailed a reply to your last; this day, but night has come, and these are the first moments I have been able to command. Now that Henry is sick, I find many duties, when I come home, that I am very happy to be able to discharge, and to day has been an unusually busy one. My brother has been very, very sick since I wrote. He's fever assumed the typhoid form, and for a number of days, we had not the least expectation of his recovery. His physicians told us that all the hope they could give us, was the fact that he was alive. He is now more comfortable but whether really any better, we hardly know. He is very weak - not able to sit up at all. He lies most of the time as if he were asleep - taking no notice of anything about him. He takes some nourishment, and usually seems to relish it very well. Dr. Moore of Concord, has been to see him, and also

Dr. Nichols of Danvers, Mass. The last named came to this town to visit a sick relative, and Father sent to him to call and see Ge. Dr. Chadbourne of Concord is coming out next week. — It does seem very strange that he does not gain. Sometimes, he seems, for one day, to be better, but something is sure to take place immediately, to discourage our hopes. I have been out of school another week, while Ge. was sickest. have now but one week longer. My brother Stile seems to be in a very quiet and happy state of mind. Father often talks with him, when he is sufficiently roused to enter into conversation. The Stile seems decided as a Christian, and willing to leave his all in the hands of our kind Heavenly Father, feeling that "He doeth all things well". It is very hard for me to realize that the pale and sunken face I see, is really my brother Henry. it is so strange for him to come home sick, as he has usually been so strong and well. It will be nine weeks tomorrow, since he was taken ill.

(18. Sabbath) Brother is not quite so well to day. Yesterday afternoon two gentlemen, who worked and boarded with him at Haverhill, came to see him. The excitement of seeing them, though he saw them but a few moments, was more than he could well endure, but we hope it will not permanently injure him.

We are having one of our most beautiful

sunsets to night = it seems the more pleasant because it is the Sabbath. Probably you have been at Newport to day. Does the preacher there improve, or do you like proper his predecessor? Do you not feel almost as much wearied on the Sabbath as on other days? I do not perceive that you have a moment of leisure. I hope some one of those assistants of yours, will soon be able to relieve you of care and labor as much as you did Mr. Chase. Though perhaps you would not be so ready to relinquish your duties to another, as was he.

I have been at Church all day to day. mother has not been at all since Ri. was sick and one of us always stay at home with her. George stayed to day. O these precious Sabbaths and these sermons. What a privilege to be permitted to enjoy them, and how important that they be improved.

(Monday morn.) You will think it takes me a long time to write, and so it does this time, for I can find only a few moments at once. I have considerable to think of this week, besides home and friends as it is the last week of School, and the Examining Committee come to see us on Friday. This is a clear, bright morning. everything is lovely, and it makes one's heart bound in gladness to go out or even to look out. Poor Henry cannot enjoy it. I am sitting by him, and he is talking, wildly, most of the

tissue for a day or two, She has been more wandering than ever. Gar has been benefit of reason, a great part of the time, for three weeks, but we thought him better, in this respect, last week. It seems very strange that he should lie in this state so long. I am glad I am that I can be at home this week. It is hard to think of going away this morning.

Before Mr. Steele was negotiating with you for your services, he incidentally mentioned to father, that he was embarrassed by the restrictions of the Directors, who had limited the salary to be allowed, to a less sum than you thought suitable. Father feels a little curiosity to know how you adjusted the matter, and would like to have me ask you to mention in your next, if you have no objection.

Father and mother send love. Brother H. has spoken of you a number of times since you were here. He says "nobody ever kept the flies away so well". But I must close this rambling letter, from your

Antoinette.

76.78
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Chas. M. Bainbridge, N.Y.
Aug. 17 — 1850

Chas. M. Bainbridge, Esq. Aug 13 1850

Home - Aug. 26. 1850

My dear friend,-

I sit down to write with a sad and heavy heart- God has taken my oldest brother, my precious Henry away from us. This is no longer his home, but we hope he is gone to a happier home in heaven- I can almost say, this is my first real sorrow- Death never came so near to me before- but- our "Father" has done it, and we cannot murmur.

He died this morning about eight o'clock, after lying about four hours apparently insensible to everything about him. We did not, until yesterday, relinquish the hope that he would recover- O how unexpected this affliction! It is very hard for me to think of it as reality. It seems as if I were writing a falsehood, when I say that Henry is dead- my hand almost refused to write that sad word. Truly "God moves in a mysterious way; His wonders to perform". But we know that he will one day "make

it plain" - we shall know why He has done thus, & see, and feel that this is the very chastisement we needed - & I do hope we shall all profit by this trial - How dreadful it is to think of the possibility of its being misimproved - I never felt more sensibly that -

"'Tis not the whole of life to live,
Nor all of death to die."

And how true it is that the Christian's hope takes away the "sting of Death" - Glad we no hope that dear Ge - is safe in a better land, how much greater would be the afflictions - It is so pleasant to think we may meet again - But it is late, and I'm sleepy, for to night: How much we should enjoy your society for a few days now, or even a few hours, - but it is a privilege to talk to you as I am now doing -

(Aug. 26 - Evening) The last sad duties are performed - we have followed our loved Ge - to his last resting place, & left him there. He will no more return to us - & how can I ever believe it: It is all mist - the events of the past week seem all a vision - a dream and I tremble lest the impression they seem to have made, should die away

as does the vessel's "furrow" from the "parted wave".
We earnestly hope that the death of one so young & vigorous, may be blessed not only to ourselves, but to all - particularly the youth of D—. He who has sent this affliction, knows how to overrule it for his own glory.— The funeral was this afternoon at four o'clock. A very large number of people were present.

Dear Ge. continued in a very calm and happy state of mind, as long as he was able to tell us of his feelings. He was delirious much of the time, but every lucid moment seemed to be employed in prayer. Once when Father was talking with him, he said he should like to — and be a living, active, working Christian, but if God chose otherwise, he felt that it would work out for him a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.

[22] My school is finished. closed a little sooner than I expected when I wrote last. I came home often to spend the night, but it was a little very trying to my feelings to be away so much. mother says she enjoyed the greatest privilege, for she was with Ge. most during his sickness. Gen. Walcott is about as usual, except fatigue. Father

is also somewhat worn out— Aug. 24 1830

I will close this and mail it to day, as we think you will like to hear what has taken place as soon as possible—

We are all anxious to hear of the health of your brother. hope he is still recovering—

Father and mother send love

Yours truly—
C. Antoinette.

Dunbarton Aug 29

Mr. Isaac S. Mitchell
Newbury
New Hampshire.

5—

Antoinette C. Bunker M.D.
Aug. 29. 1830

Antoinette Dunbarton N. H.

Sept. 11. 1850

Dunbarton, Sept. 11, 1850

My dear friend,—

Your last kind letter was received and read with unusual interest—Since then, my time has been very fully occupied—mother has been almost sick, and we have had much company. After my brother's death, all the days seemed like Sabbaths—it was quite a task for us to engage in our usual duties; but that feeling is wearing away. I do hope those impressions, made by that event and more desirable to be retained, will not so speedily depart; and I cannot think they will. Another world does seem nearer, and the path that leads us thither seems brighter;—and this earth to, seems purer than ever. It does not appear the dark wilderness which some, who have known sorrow, feel it to be. I know not why—I should love to think it is so dark; it is because I see, more than ever before, God in all things—

Now that one loved brother "is not"—because God has

Nashua, N. H. Sept. 13. 1850

Your brother is coming—I hope your own brother's return—& think of you & dear Antoinette.

Very truly—Antoinette?

taken him, I find my heart clings more and more closely to my only remaining one, and I am very happy to tell you that George thinks he has come to the full determination to live a Christian life, and we do hope he has indeed chosen the good part. & may his future life be spent in doing good, and furnish, constantly, new evidence that this is a genuine work of grace. What more, or better could we desire for him? Surely we have abundant reason for gratitude to Heaven.

I have been reading today a long account of the proceedings of the General Association. It must be interesting to hear Mr. Goddard talk of the Nestorians. I really feel much interest in that little band of Christians. They furnish an example, in many respects worthy imitation, by the professed followers of Christ everywhere. The writer of the notice reported to, speaks very highly of Dr. Dwight's performance; but rather disparagingly of that of Pres. Lord. The peculiar views of the latter, must be very heartless & discouraging to those laboring to convert the world.

(Eve.) I have just returned from a delightful ride with my dear father and mother, and I did enjoy it so very much that I can do no otherwise than

sit down directly and write about it. Perhaps it seemed pleasanter, because I have not been to ride for some time before. It came just at twilight. That sweetest part of the day, to me, and the sky and clouds — but I'll not try to describe them. It would be utterly useless. I'll just say they were very, very beautiful. They looked just as they have many times, without doubt; when you have seen and admired, and then the air, it does one good to inhale such sweetness. And the kind words and acts of the people too. We called on one family whose greeting thrice repaid us, and when returning, a young Lady of our acquaintance, came out to meet us, and deposited in our carriage a nice large pumpkin, and some fresh flowers. She said for Antoinette, but I expect it was all for my parents' sake. Who could help being happy? It would be wicked not to be, and as much so, to forget whence comes alike the flower and the thorn. To Him be thanks for both.

Thus much for my ride. I cannot tell much about it after all. I believe I can feel it better than I can describe it.

Since I last wrote, summer has departed, and

the chilly winds we have occasionally, remind us that Autumn is here. We have had rain frequent and abundant. So that, since the grain was gathered, "the sear, the yellow leaf" is hardly visible anywhere about us, at present.

If you have showers as often as we, those instruments must, ere this, have become quite thoroughly acquainted with your coats. Mother thinks she shall suggest an India Rubber covering, made on purpose, to take the place of the garments.

I have no school to occupy my thoughts now. It seemed rather strange at first, as usual, but I did not mind it as much as I generally do, because I have had so much else to call my attention. The school agent in the District wished to know whether, if they would allow me three or four weeks in which to rest, I would return for a private school. Since that, another school has been proppened, of a similar character. The visiting Committee and a number of the people of the district were present, the last afternoon of my school. You will recollect I had but 12 scholars, but, notwithstanding the small number, the exercises were not completed until five minutes past five o'clock. I intended to have been through before four, but the Committee had very many questions to ask, which, of course, detained us. But an examination never passed with more comfort and pleasure to me. I shall always love those scholars. They have been so good & studious. It required very little effort, on my part, to govern my school.

We are just enjoying some very fine early apples which our own farm produced. I wish you could share them with us. could I send some in a letter, they should be forthcoming. Father says "you can, but it would be a very awkward letter."

We are all very glad to hear that you still hope

Home, Oct 1. 1860

My dear friends,—

This is a lovely morning, and I have been wondering if Oct. had brought you as beautiful a day. How delightful and invigorating are these cool and sunny mornings — one cannot be sad. And sometimes when there is so much loveliness to behold, it seems too much for one heart to contain. I have just been thinking how pleasant it would be if you were here now, to help me enjoy the beauty that is all around.

Do not your situations and occupations, afford many opportunities to gratify a taste for Natural History? — though perhaps you are obliged to be so busy that you cannot stop to examine & enjoy what is to be seen. I was reading, a day or two since, a few lines, describing the emotions of one who loved nature, so perfectly, that I believe I must write it for you in the words of the author. I thought of you when I read it. It is this — "He feels as if he grew in the grass, and flowers, and groves; as if he stood on yonder distant mountain-tops, conversing with clouds, or sublimely sporting among their imaged precipices, caverns, and ~~ruins~~. He flows in that river, shapes in its cascades, smiles in the water-lilies, frisks in the fishes. He is sympathetic with every bird, &

seems to feel the sentiment that prompts the song of each". Is it not fine? And have you not felt it many a time, while rambling over mountain and valley and hill? That mountain you wrote about. I really feel quite interested in it; and the dwelling so very near it, with the good people within. I can almost see the whole establishment.

Oct. 2. Here we are - mother and I - quietly seated in our kitchen, which is home to us both, at least in the forenoon. We have been sewing, and studying History, by turns - till just now I thought I should like writing better. I must tell you something about the good meetings we have had. Eek before last, Mr. Cordley, the minister at Hopkinton, with five delegates from his church, came over and passed two days - Wednesday & Thursday. The forenoon of each day was spent in visiting from house to house, and conversing with the people on religious subjects; and in the afternoon and evening, Mr. Cordley preached. These meetings were very well attended and much interest was manifested. Since that week, quite a number have been here to converse with father about their souls, and seven individuals have expressed a determination to be for Christ. Father has appointed a regular meeting for those who wish to converse with him. It is held in his study, on Sunday evening.

It is found that many have, for some weeks, been unusually thoughtful. The first one who expressed

hope, said her first impressions were received, while listening to the sermon on the Sabbath after my brother died. I do hope we shall yet see still greater things. Three other persons have died within the last three weeks. These occurrences, reminding us so frequently how frail we are, seem to have made a deep impression on many minds. O may it be lasting. Then we shall indeed have cause to bless God even for afflictions. He does know what is best; and it is very, very sweet to trust our all with Him. to feel that we are safe - perfectly safe, always, because God will take care of us. He is indeed good and merciful, and let us love and praise Him more and more.

Father, and five delegates from this Church, are going to Hopkinton, week after next, to return the visit we have received. It was at the request of this Church that the delegation from Ho. came here, and they request the return.

Is Mr. Simeon Burnham from Manchester one of your company? Some years since he taught school in this town, and my father is considerably acquainted with him. He learned, a few days since, that he was employed on the Central R.R.

It is pleasant to hear that your brother is still better. I know you must feel anxious to see him.

It is late, and I have been sitting here alone, for some time. I must not write much longer -

Did you know the pleasure your letter afforded, I do not believe you would think you relinquished the

"Coon Hunting" for naught; neither would you ask me to excuse it— I should be very sorry to exclude it from my company of letter treasures—

But I do hope you will have an opportunity to go hunting, while in the region of that mountain for I think it would be quite a relief to lay good bye to dull care, and engage in such sport for a time. How I should love to hear those creatures "whistle"— it would seem almost as if I were back in Illinois.

Don't you think, you will, some day, before a long time, emerge from those mountain recesses, so effectually that Dumbarton will be the better for it? The inmates of a certain little cottage would be happy to welcome you; one little body in particular— But we all know that you are very busy indeed, and that it must be very difficult for you to be away— You are very kind to write so much. A letter always comes the very day I look for it. But I must stop, or father and mother will think me a naughty girl to write so late.

Very truly, your Antoinette.

Antoinette Dunbarton N.H.

Nov 8. 1850

Manchester N. H. Nov 9. 1850

Antoinette Merrimack N.H.
Dec. 2, 4. 1850

This is Merrimack, Reed's Ferry, N. H.

Merrimack, N. H. Dec. 2. 1850.

My dear friend,—

Here we are, brother George and I, at "Merrimack Normal Institute. We came hither to day, accompanied by father. The New-Haven project resulted very much as you seemed to have anticipated. A letter reached us, last Thursday, the 28 of Nov. stating that Miss Bacon once had a class, to whom she lectured, as we supposed, and whose reading she directed and regulated,— and that she was now pursuing the same course with a class in Boston. The next day father saw a gentleman who has been a teacher, and a pupil also, in this institution, who gave so flattering an account of everything connected with it, that we at once decided that it was the best place for us. The term commenced this day, so

Bangor, Via Milo. Dec. 10, 1850

brother and I, had just one day in which to prepare for ten weeks absence from our home, but we succeeded in making everything ready, left home about eight o'clock, took the cars at Coffstown and reached this place about half past eleven. It is one of the regulations, that those who intend to become members of the school, shall give previous intimations of it, otherwise they cannot be admitted, but the winter term is somewhat smaller than the others, and for this reason, and by making some little change in their arrangements, we were admitted.

Dec. 4. I wrote only thus far yesterday for considerable of my time was occupied in the school room, and besides it was, as every first-day usually is, one of more or less confusion. But to day I can tell you that I am really delighted with the school. Mr. Russell and Mr. Ray, who are the Instructors, and at the head of the Institution seem to be just what

teachers ought to be. Not long since, I read a lecture which Mr. Russell delivered on the Teacher's duties in which he says that "every teacher should be a living Encyclopedia to his pupils". I think he is a most perfect example of this. I have heard him lecture twice already, and these lectures as well as each recitation show abundantly that he has a fund of information which very few if any can boast. No one can avoid being pleased with him.

My recitations at present are in Etymology, Analysis of the Eng. Language, Rhetoric, History, & Grenath, beside Reading and Elocution in which every member is expected to join. I have not yet commenced Drawing, but intend to do so. The expense, as nearly as I can determine will not exceed forty dollars. I have been obliged to procure some new text-books but a much less number than I anticipated. Our lesson in Rhetoric consists of practical exercises given out by Mr. R, and we use no book. If there is any other branch you would

like to have me pursue or any one of these which you think had better be omitted, you will of course tell me. I intended to have asked some advice in my last letter about what branches I should take up but neglected it. I feel lost without some branch of Mathematics. When the classes in Algebra and Geometry recite, it is with difficulty that I avoid suspending totally my own operations for the sake of listening. I do love these branches dearly, but — think I need something else more at present.

I hoped to be able to tell you just how my time is employed, but shall not be able, if I send my letter to day, as I wish to do; for my lessons are not all arranged yet.

I feel anxious to hear from you, and know where you are to be and how employed, also of the health of your friends. I think I know something of your emotions when you felt that your sister might be not long for earth. May you be spared that bitterness of grief. The bell for school is ringing and I must go — Yours ever Antoinette.

Antoinette
Dec. 24. 1850

We have a holy-day tomorrow, & I am employed this minute to answer your kind letter. Pantheon, Portland, Dec. 24. 1850

It seems to me very pleasant to be employed this minute to answer your kind letter. Pantheon, Portland, Dec. 24. 1850

It seems

and intellectual, and withal, possessed some fine traits of character. I hope to be much benefitted by her society. We are quite happy together notwithstanding we have some trials and tribulations. Nothing very serious however, I would not have you infer; but our room is in the North East corner of this edifice, and as cold a place as we could reasonably desire. There are a sufficient quantity of cracks in the floor, and about the windows, to ventilate our room most admirably. Sometimes when the wind blows very hard we have considerable trouble to make our fire burn, for the wind takes a freak to carry fire and all, up chimney; Could we known what we should need, we might have brought many things from home, which would add to our comfort. We have sent for several articles; among the rest, a pair of tongs, and, till they come, our thumb and finger we use for such. I think you would be amused to see us blow the fire, and talk to it, and try in every way to coax it to burn. These little vexations help to keep us in good spirits, for we can not help being amused. Now, do not think it is always thus - it is only when the wind blows very furiously.

Our room is very small indeed, but this does not trouble us much, we are very good natured about it all. Now I am almost sorry I have told you this, for we have so many comforts, and so many advantages that I think we could enjoy nowhere else, that they entirely counterbalance these petty inconveniences.

O! I do love the very name of school, and I do wish to enjoy

and improve every moment of my time here. I do not wish a single second to be a blank - The time is but ten weeks, and the third one is flying now - how soon it will all be fled. - But - I must stop here, for the present, or my compositions will prove failures. The class in Rhetoric have one to prepare every week, in connection with the lesson of Monday - And next Friday evening, I am to read one before the whole company of scholars, visitors, and all - it makes my heart beat quick to think of it -

Dec. 21) My room mate has gone to Nashua this afternoon, to spend the sabbath with friends there; so I am quite alone, except when brother George comes to see me. Gentlemen are not allowed to visit the ladies rooms, at all, but Mr. Ray, one of the teachers, gave George permission to come and see me, at any time, not in study hours. He comes quite often, sometimes to obtain assistance about some lesson, sometimes to bring wood for us, and sometimes just to talk, or to read with me, our letters from home. This adds greatly to our happiness - This afternoon I have prepared a written translation in French, (which our teachers requires of the class every Saturday) - Since finishing that, George and I have been to walk, - and now, while I am writing, he is getting wood, for our room, and his own.

This evening, (Saturday) we can spend as we choose - it is the only evening of the week that we call our own. Monday evening, at half past seven, is a meeting of the debating society - composed of the Institute scholars, at which we are all required to be present. Tuesday & ~~Thursday~~ Friday evenings, we go to

the lecture rooms at the same hour (half past seven) and devote one half hour to the practice of secular music. This is followed by Declamations, Compositions, and the Recitation of Poetry by the Ladies. The latter is something new to me. I have not yet attempted it. The Ladies take their stand upon the stage, to read composition, and to recite poetry. The exercises of these two evenings are voluntary, but Mr. Russell is very anxious that all should take part in them and most are perfectly willing. The exercises are, usually, very interesting.

Wednesday evening, Mr. Russell gives a lecture on English Literature, which is followed by what is termed regulated conversation. Some subject is announced beforehand, and all are invited to unite in discussing it. Last Wednesday, each one was requested to describe the scenery about their homes. We have not yet been very sociable on these evenings, but I hope we improve a little, as the weeks pass. Thursday evening we spend half an hour in the practise of sacred music, and then Mr. Russell communicates all the interesting and important items of general intelligence, gathered during the week from newspapers &c. He dwells particularly on what is connected with the progress of Science and Art. Saturday evening we spend in reading or writing to friends. Sabbath evening we have a lecture from the minister of the Palace (Mr Little) or from some neighboring minister; or, a biblical lesson. Last Sabbath evening Mr. Seymour, who was City Missionary at Manchester, lectured, & he is coming again tomorrow eve. He intends to give a series of lectures, on the character and condition of the Indian. He hopes some of the students here will be willing to go and labor among them as missionaries. Perhaps you have heard him speak - I do love to listen to him, notwithstanding all his peculiarities - I think him a truly good man - heartily engaged in the work of doing good.

The first Sabbath I was here, it stormed, and, as we are two miles from church, and must walk, I did not attend; but Mr. Russell met us all in the lecture room, and read a sermon. This, he usually does, when the weather is unpleasant. But this did not make it seem like Sabbath to me. The first two weeks seemed like one long week, without a Sabbath. I am quite sure I shall not stay from church again when the weather and walking are suitable. It seems strange to be so far from the meetinghouse. Heard Mr Little preach last Sabbath, and was much interested in his sermons. He is not a great man. I should not think his education thorough, but his thoughts are good - his manner earnest - and impressive.

Mr. Russell reads a sermon so well that it is as interesting as to hear many men preach. Some of the scholars seem to rejoice to have a stormy Sabbath.

A day's routine.

Rise at half past five.

From 6½ to 7½ ——	Study Reading lessons and History.
From 7½ to 8 ——	Breakfast.
From 8 to ¼ 9 ——	Exercise; usually walking.
From ¼ 9 to 9¼ ——	Prayers, in the Lecture room, followed by a short "moral lesson" from Mr. Russell.
From 9¼ to 10½ ——	Study Analysis, and Rhetoric.
From 10½ to ¼ 11 ——	Recess.
From ¼ 11 to 12 ——	Recite Analysis and Rhetoric.
From 12 to 12½ ——	Dinner.
From 12½ to 1 ——	Miscellaneous Reading.
From 1 to 2 ——	Study French.
From 2 to 2½ ——	Class in Reading.
From 2½ to ¼ 3 ——	Recess.
From ¼ 3 to ¾ ——	Study French.
From ¾ to ¼ 4 ——	Elocution.
From ¼ 4 to 4 ——	Closing Exercises. Singing &c.
From 4 to ½ 4½ ——	Recite French.
From 4½ to 5 ——	Sometimes walk. sometimes read aloud.
From 5 to 5½ ——	Supper.
From 5½ to 7½ ——	Regular Study hours. (Devote to, French, History or Composition.)
From 7½ to 9 ——	In the Lecture room (except Saturday evening.)
From 9 to 9¼ ——	Prayers in the Lecture room.

Recite History - Wednesday and Saturday afternoons, at one o'clock - to Mr Ray.

On Saturday afternoon I have no recitation except in History.

Recite in French to Miss Anna Russell - the eldest daughter of Mr. R. All the remaining lessons I recite to Mr. Russell -

A.P.M. to J.S.M.
Dec. 31. 1850
Merrimack Street

Dec. 31 - 1850 —

I am weary - but - I wished once more to date 1850. The old year is almost gone - a year full of event - a year long to be remembered - I think of dear Henry to night, and he does not seem far away. Has he not just begun to live? Miss McKean, my room mate, buried her only brother last June - We feel that we can share each other's sorrows, & that we can rejoice together too. Those dear lost ones are not dead to night, and we should not be sad for them, though it seems, sometimes hard to "live without their vanished light". How little we dreamed, one year ago this night, what the year was bringing for us. One only knows what the hours and moments of the year now coming will bring, - but it is very sweet to confide all to Him.

Jan. 1. 1851. The morning of the new year has come - bright and beautiful - May it be to them a very happy one

The new-year's wish has echoed, merrily, through the halls of our building this morning, and has followed many a tap at our door. I could not help wishing, silently, that all these hearts, now so light - and happy, might know the true source of all real joy -

But I must not stop this morning to write much - I have

Brother George will return next term - This term has three weeks after this one week only of vacation - We rooms in this building are [illegible] engaged - I have as yet received no intimation from my guardians and consideration, as to whether I shall be [illegible] term - It will very likely be so, if I choose - I do not like to do it - I should dearly like, however, to have a letter from home - I have not had one since Nov. 25 - I wrote almost daily to them during the first part of this month - I am anxious to hear from home - I wrote Father, Mother, Henry & Julia - Dec. 1st - Dec. 2nd - Dec. 3rd - Dec. 4th - Dec. 5th - Dec. 6th - Dec. 7th - Dec. 8th - Dec. 9th - Dec. 10th - Dec. 11th - Dec. 12th - Dec. 13th - Dec. 14th - Dec. 15th - Dec. 16th - Dec. 17th - Dec. 18th - Dec. 19th - Dec. 20th - Dec. 21st - Dec. 22nd - Dec. 23rd - Dec. 24th - Dec. 25th - Dec. 26th - Dec. 27th - Dec. 28th - Dec. 29th - Dec. 30th - Dec. 31st - Jan. 1st - Jan. 2nd - Jan. 3rd - Jan. 4th - Jan. 5th - Jan. 6th - Jan. 7th - Jan. 8th - Jan. 9th - Jan. 10th - Jan. 11th - Jan. 12th - Jan. 13th - Jan. 14th - Jan. 15th - Jan. 16th - Jan. 17th - Jan. 18th - Jan. 19th - Jan. 20th - Jan. 21st - Jan. 22nd - Jan. 23rd - Jan. 24th - Jan. 25th - Jan. 26th - Jan. 27th - Jan. 28th - Jan. 29th - Jan. 30th - Jan. 31st - Feb. 1st - Feb. 2nd - Feb. 3rd - Feb. 4th - Feb. 5th - Feb. 6th - Feb. 7th - Feb. 8th - Feb. 9th - Feb. 10th - Feb. 11th - Feb. 12th - Feb. 13th - Feb. 14th - Feb. 15th - Feb. 16th - Feb. 17th - Feb. 18th - Feb. 19th - Feb. 20th - Feb. 21st - Feb. 22nd - Feb. 23rd - Feb. 24th - Feb. 25th - Feb. 26th - Feb. 27th - Feb. 28th - Mar. 1st - Mar. 2nd - Mar. 3rd - Mar. 4th - Mar. 5th - Mar. 6th - Mar. 7th - Mar. 8th - Mar. 9th - Mar. 10th - Mar. 11th - Mar. 12th - Mar. 13th - Mar. 14th - Mar. 15th - Mar. 16th - Mar. 17th - Mar. 18th - Mar. 19th - Mar. 20th - Mar. 21st - Mar. 22nd - Mar. 23rd - Mar. 24th - Mar. 25th - Mar. 26th - Mar. 27th - Mar. 28th - Mar. 29th - Mar. 30th - Mar. 31st - Apr. 1st - Apr. 2nd - Apr. 3rd - Apr. 4th - Apr. 5th - Apr. 6th - Apr. 7th - Apr. 8th - Apr. 9th - Apr. 10th - Apr. 11th - Apr. 12th - Apr. 13th - Apr. 14th - Apr. 15th - Apr. 16th - Apr. 17th - Apr. 18th - Apr. 19th - Apr. 20th - Apr. 21st - Apr. 22nd - Apr. 23rd - Apr. 24th - Apr. 25th - Apr. 26th - Apr. 27th - Apr. 28th - Apr. 29th - Apr. 30th - May 1st - May 2nd - May 3rd - May 4th - May 5th - May 6th - May 7th - May 8th - May 9th - May 10th - May 11th - May 12th - May 13th - May 14th - May 15th - May 16th - May 17th - May 18th - May 19th - May 20th - May 21st - May 22nd - May 23rd - May 24th - May 25th - May 26th - May 27th - May 28th - May 29th - May 30th - May 31st - June 1st - June 2nd - June 3rd - June 4th - June 5th - June 6th - June 7th - June 8th - June 9th - June 10th - June 11th - June 12th - June 13th - June 14th - June 15th - June 16th - June 17th - June 18th - June 19th - June 20th - June 21st - June 22nd - June 23rd - June 24th - June 25th - June 26th - June 27th - June 28th - June 29th - June 30th - July 1st - July 2nd - July 3rd - July 4th - July 5th - July 6th - July 7th - July 8th - July 9th - July 10th - July 11th - July 12th - July 13th - July 14th - July 15th - July 16th - July 17th - July 18th - July 19th - July 20th - July 21st - July 22nd - July 23rd - July 24th - July 25th - July 26th - July 27th - July 28th - July 29th - July 30th - July 31st - Aug. 1st - Aug. 2nd - Aug. 3rd - Aug. 4th - Aug. 5th - Aug. 6th - Aug. 7th - Aug. 8th - Aug. 9th - Aug. 10th - Aug. 11th - Aug. 12th - Aug. 13th - Aug. 14th - Aug. 15th - Aug. 16th - Aug. 17th - Aug. 18th - Aug. 19th - Aug. 20th - Aug. 21st - Aug. 22nd - Aug. 23rd - Aug. 24th - Aug. 25th - Aug. 26th - Aug. 27th - Aug. 28th - Aug. 29th - Aug. 30th - Aug. 31st - Sept. 1st - Sept. 2nd - Sept. 3rd - Sept. 4th - Sept. 5th - Sept. 6th - Sept. 7th - Sept. 8th - Sept. 9th - Sept. 10th - Sept. 11th - Sept. 12th - Sept. 13th - Sept. 14th - Sept. 15th - Sept. 16th - Sept. 17th - Sept. 18th - Sept. 19th - Sept. 20th - Sept. 21st - Sept. 22nd - Sept. 23rd - Sept. 24th - Sept. 25th - Sept. 26th - Sept. 27th - Sept. 28th - Sept. 29th - Sept. 30th - Oct. 1st - Oct. 2nd - Oct. 3rd - Oct. 4th - Oct. 5th - Oct. 6th - Oct. 7th - Oct. 8th - Oct. 9th - Oct. 10th - Oct. 11th - Oct. 12th - Oct. 13th - Oct. 14th - Oct. 15th - Oct. 16th - Oct. 17th - Oct. 18th - Oct. 19th - Oct. 20th - Oct. 21st - Oct. 22nd - Oct. 23rd - Oct. 24th - Oct. 25th - Oct. 26th - Oct. 27th - Oct. 28th - Oct. 29th - Oct. 30th - Oct. 31st - Nov. 1st - Nov. 2nd - Nov. 3rd - Nov. 4th - Nov. 5th - Nov. 6th - Nov. 7th - Nov. 8th - Nov. 9th - Nov. 10th - Nov. 11th - Nov. 12th - Nov. 13th - Nov. 14th - Nov. 15th - Nov. 16th - Nov. 17th - Nov. 18th - Nov. 19th - Nov. 20th - Nov. 21st - Nov. 22nd - Nov. 23rd - Nov. 24th - Nov. 25th - Nov. 26th - Nov. 27th - Nov. 28th - Nov. 29th - Nov. 30th

written a few lines home too, just enough to let all know that I remember them. I am a little more in haste, with my lessons then usual this morning- for Miss McKeen is sick, and I have been trying my skill to relieve her and she really says she feels better. Isn't that good? It is painful to have friends sick, but it is joy to comfort them when suffering, and to hear the words "I am better now".

Jan-12- I had decided not to send this- It was written so long ago, but since receiving yours, I thought I would send it just as it is- I think you will excuse its antiquity-

The information your letter contained, came somewhat suddenly upon me- I was not expecting it so speedily- You too have a dear brother, for an angel guard above- It is indeed sad to think that so much of youth and promise, should pass away from earth, but it is delightful to reflect that it blooms in fresh beauty, and with greater loveliness, in Heaven. "This corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality". How full of precious truths is the fifteenth of 1. Cor. I need not tell you that my warmest sympathies are with you- I rejoice with you in that perfect triumph over the last of foes- Death does not deem the "King of Terrors", when he comes in so beautiful a form. Our precious Savior will comfort you all- Well may they mourn who have lost friends without a Savior; but we may rather rejoice, that the good may die-

Six persons are, to day, to be admitted to the church

in Dunbarton - All young people, and five are members of the same family - it is a happy day to my dear father, and to all good people. I have enjoyed the Sabbath exceedingly. I listened to a most impressive sermon, in the forenoon, from Galations 6 - 14 - This afternoon, in connection with the administration of the Lord's Supper, two persons were admitted to the church, one of whom was baptised - Since returning from church, we have had an interesting prayer meeting - This female prayer meeting was commenced the first of the term, with but three or four attendantes - This eve. the little room was crowded. I can but think it has already done good - Deep feeling was manifest - to day - tears flowed from almost every eye - One young lady expressed a determination to seek Christ; and said she sometimes dared to hope she was a Christian. There are very few professors here - So had a weight of responsibility rests upon those few, with regard to their companions. Prayer will avail much - We cannot value it too highly, or be too often engaged in that which unlocks all heaven's treasures, & brings every blessing from above -

I believe I mentioned in some letter, that we walk two miles to meeting - When the day is as pleasant as this has been, it is a most delightful walk - the road is very level, and tall, dark pines, rise on each side, almost the whole distance - To day the sky was of that clear deep blue, so glorious to behold; the air pure, and even the dear little birds

were singing - we could not help stopping to listen to them. The Institute Scholars, threading their way, two and two, through the light and shade under the trees, formed rather an interesting scene - I do not know as I have told you that we are almost entirely surrounded by evergreen forests, which not only help to keep us warm, but are very beautiful. In some spots where the brown and withered leaves of the oak are interspersed, they seem to have almost the beauty of the Autumn woods.

Jan. 13. I rose at five this morning - have had a nice walk, and have finished copying my Composition, to hand to Mr. Russell this morning, and now I can write a letter with a light heart - duty before pleasure, you know is the maxim. I have plenty of Compositions to write - Our Rhetoric Scholars bring in one every Monday morning, the French class prepare one every other Saturday and occasionally one must be prepared for the exercises of Tuesday & Friday evening - In addition to this, for the last two weeks, the class in Retoric have prepared one nearly every day. So my mind has been quite closely occupied. Whenever I go and whatever I do, I am thinking continually of composition - I think it has been very profitable to me, though it is somewhat wearisome. I suppose we shall have a little change in our exercises this week, which will be very agreeable. I have read two compositions, on the stage, and sung twice - Is not that considerable for little Nettie to do? We have quite a company of visitors, on Tuesday and Friday evenings - Last Friday, a large company came from Manchester. We have frequent visits from friends of education - Since I wrote, Prof. Samuel Wilson, an Elocutionist has been here - Dr. G. G. Lambert has been here, and delivered six very interesting lectures on Physiology He is from New York city, but is lecturing in Boston this winter.

I feel much happier than at first, for I am now acquainted with the Scholars, and feel interested in them - I enjoy the society of my room mate more and more every day.

The weather is warmer now, and our room is very comfortable besides we have substituted for a carpet on the floor, and have nailed a shawl over one window - so we keep quite warm.

Brother George has been sick for three days - He took a severe cold and was very feverish - I felt very anxious about him, the first two days, but the fever is somewhat lightened to day for he is much better, though not yet quite able to go down to the school room. He seems quite interested in study.

"Merrimack Normal Institute", Feb. 6, 1847.

My dear friend,—

More than three weeks since, did I dispatch a letter in reply to yours received Jan. 8—, and never a word have I received in return, though I have listened most intently, and questioned the East wind of its burden; you must be, methinks, a weary way off that your answer should be so long in journeying— But— seriously now, I have so much confidence in your punctuality, and regard for the happiness of this same little self, and possessing, as I hope, somewhat of the "charity that thinketh no evil", I feel sure that you must have written, and your letter, by some accident of Post-Office, have failed to reach me— so, I will write again to ask of you a substitute for the missing letter, for I confess, that I am not over patient in sustaining such losses— We are on the verge of a closing term; to-morrow is our last— great— day— There is to be public examination continuing all day, and rhetorical exercises on to occupy the evening,— so I must be very busy studying to-day. I have part in a dialogue for the evening, and some music to practise, so I must— deny myself the pleasure of writing

more than a mere note this morning. I have not yet learned from my dear advisers, Thurs. whether it is deemed expedient for me to continue another term at the "Institute". I only know that I go home on Saturday and that whatever they do counsel, will be cheerfully complied with. I do not know how I could live without somebody to tell me always what to do. The expenses of this term, for board, tuition & books have been a little less than $29,00. Not as much as I expected. I was not able to attend to drawing, because the teacher in that branch has been sick all the term. So that I have ample means to stay another term, if it is thought advisable. My time has passed very pleasantly and profitably, although I regret, as usual, that I have not made much more progress. We are to have but one week of vacation. I spoke to Mr. Ray, who has charge of the boarding, to reserve a room until I should know if I returned. This was some time since, but I still think there will be room, because preference is given to those who have previously attended. I can hardly realize that ten weeks are so nearly expired, and that, nothing occurring to prevent, Georgie and I will be at home day after tomorrow. I have heard frequently from home; our good Dumbarton people are to make their pastor a pastoral visit next Wednesday, (Feb. 12) and I am commissioned by my mother to invite most cordially your own self to be present. Nettie would be glad to run and carry the message and say for her, "Please, do come". but where should she go? I feel somewhat in doubt, as to where

this letter may find you, but I do hope you are well and happy wherever it may be - I know that whatever may be your circumstances of pleasure, there is an aching sense of something gone from earth, and thoughts of the dear brother departed, will come like the still, mournful rain, - but when the Sun of Righteousness shines through, the bright rainbow of promise makes your spirit glad again. O how sweet and consoling are the precious words of promise in God's book - how full and rich they are - You certainly have my tenderest sympathy, and sympathy it may be, since I have felt the same sorrow - and, I hope, the same consolation -

But - I am writing a letter after all, and stealing time from my lessons, and as they have little more to ask, I think they must be heeded - I am fearful the invitation will reach you too late - I should have sent it before, but that I wished to hear from you - However this may be, I hope we may see you soon, if you are not so busily occupied that it is impossible - We shall look for you a little next week - I do not know how long it may take this letter to reach you - I need not ask you to write, if you do not come - for you have, I believe, a heart to feel for all human troubles, and, among the rest, for the lettered starvation of your

Antoinette -

I think I will direct to Bangor, and to the care of your brother there, since I am not sure that you are there. A.

Uncle Lemuel 5
Feb 6)

Mrs Isaac L. Metcalf
~~Bangor~~
Milo
(Care of Mr. E. K. Metcalf)
Maine.

Apr 5 9 3 PM
Feb. 1857

Rome, Feb. 25. 1861.

My dear friend,—

I cannot tell you how very anxious I feel, to hear some tidings from you. I have heard nothing, since Jan. 4, and a long, long time it has seemed to me. This will be the third letter I have written to you, since then. When I wrote last, I supposed you must have mailed a reply to the first, and that, by some accident, it had been lost. Now, I hardly know what to suppose. I sometimes am fearful that you are sick, and unable to write, or even to dictate for another. The wintry winds, and chilling frosts, perhaps, have proved to severe for endurance. Is it so? If thus, may it be that you are among dear friends, who will kindly watch over you, and "soften all your care". Did I only know that you live, and are in health, it would greatly relieve my apprehensions. Your last letter has been read, and read again, I know not how many times.

I returned to Dunbarton, at the close of the term at Le- (Feb. 8.) and have been at home since. happy as usual, except that I have felt so much anxiety—

to hear from you - I will tell you, frankly, that this has troubled me - unaccountable and mysterious it seems. Still, I can but feel that it may be like one of those dark clouds, with the shining edge, which is so very bright on the other side - Thus I hope it may prove -

I would write more, were I sure this would reach you - If it does, please let me know if you have written to me, or have received letters from me, since Jan. 4. Of course, I am very impatient - to hear from you. I can hardly endure this suspense - O! if you are only well! But I must try to be patient -

Your Antoinette -

Home, March 5, 1867—

My dear Friend,—

Your kind letter went first to Reid's Ferry, and having been remailed, by my brother, reached me here last night—, bringing joy to my heart. I was altogether too happy to write, last evening; but—I must hasten to day to reply, and send to you a free and full pardon, for I greatly fear that my last letter, if you have received it, has troubled you, in turn. I believe it was somewhat mournful for I usually write as I feel—Now please light a pipe with that, will you not; For I do not love to think of its existence. I write now, with totally different—feelings. When I thought of you as sick, or enduring some species of evil—now, I rejoice that, instead of this, you were well, and enjoying so highly your forest journeyings—reading from Nature's great book, and feasting "on raptures ever new". You need not fear that your description was uninteresting or wearisome Not so—indeed, for it quite delighted me. I have pictured, in my mind, a most enchanting scene of life in the woods, which I shall always love to look upon. I wonder not that you enjoyed it much for the time. The "Lumber men's camps" brought to my mind, some of the shanties of the West, which are constructed in a very similar manner.

I presume it will prove to be all for the best that I did

Perhaps I ought to mention that this principal reason why I am not now at Lawrence is that I did not like to engage as a woman, while there was a probability of being drafted. I, since then, have changed my mind, & am now ready to do doing, I remember expressions of yours, made in the winter, before the draft, for this term, & if I am drafted I shall go as a soldier. You may see all of you, for this term, before the draft, & if I am drafted I shall go as a soldier.

not returns to Merrimack, for Brother George writes that Mr. Russell has not been in school but three days this term, and those the three first - This would have sadly disturbed my recitations, had I been there - His health is very comfortable during the warm weather, but he suffers much during the Winter months, and the early portion of Spring. Besides Mr. Russell's illness, I could have had no advantages in Drawing, for the Miss daughter of Mr. R., who instructs in this branch, is sick also - has been out of health for a long time - I have decided, with my parents advice, to go over to Concord, in a few days, and spend perhaps three weeks there, in a very excellent family; that of Mrs French, the widow of a Missionary to Siam - I shall have the advantage of good society; some time for reading, and shall receive instruction in Drawing and Painting - I think I may spend the time profitably and pleasantly.

When I came home, I felt exceedingly desirous to return to the Institute, particularly on account of the advantages there afforded for pursuing the study of History, and also of Elocution, but Mr. Russell's illness would have prevented my receiving the anticipated benefit - He was to have charge of the students in History, this term - His information on this subject is very extensive indeed -

Our examination passed very pleasantly, though we were all sufficiently fatigued at its close - We had a good number of visitors during the day to listen to the review of the studies, among them was the Rev. Mr. Sears, - the Mass. Com. School Commissioner who addressed the students, in the forenoon, in quite an in-

interesting manner, on the subject of Education - The exercises of the day were interdispersed with the reading of Compositions. She went upon the stage to read them, as usual, mine came in the last of the afternoon, thus giving me a long while to dread it. You would not be likely to imagine what was my subject - it was "The pursuit of gardening is productive of good". I had not intended it for that occasion, but not having sufficient time to finish, to my mind, what I had designed, I made use of a substitute - In the evening, our Lecture Room, was filled to overflowing, and the exercises consisted of recitations, declamations, and dialogues, many of which were original - There was but a single Composition read, in the evening - There was a French dialogue, in which all the Scholars in French took part - This was quite amusing - We sung, twice - at the close an original hymn. appropriate to the time, composed by Miss McKeen, my room mate -

Cathie did not go to M.. to witness the closing exercises - But he met us at Coffstown the next day - It was extremely cold, but we did not suffer - George was obliged to get out and run a number of times in order to keep himself comfortable -

On Wednesday, of vacation week, the day of the Visit, we greeted 120 of the parishioners - more than one eighth of the whole population of our town - They seemed a very happy company - We had an address to the young people, from one of their number - it was original, and very good. As usual, there was considerable singing and instrumental music - Mr. John Parker was here, Mr. Raymond, with his wife and sister Mary - Twenty young men made a very beautiful present, to my mother, of a China Tea Set. - The names of the donors

were handed in, in the course of the evening.

I believe I have not mentioned to you, that Mr. Harris Ryder, was married, on Thanksgiving morning, to Miss Elisabeth Kimball - You doubtless, recollect them both.

I have been very busy since I came home, much of the time, in writing for father - He is preparing for the press a work on "Analysis of the English Language" - I have been copying. He had also as Chairman of the School Committee of this town been writing a report of the Schools to be printed - This I copied, also.

A few days since a letter came from Illinois, containing a request for me to go to Carlyle, in that State, and take charge of a Select School, - and, a few days previous to this, while at the Institute, the teacher of the Academy at Westminster Vt. offered me a situation as assistant there - I tried to find some one to take the place at Carlyle, but could not succeed - No one to whom I mentioned it wished to go so far from home - Mrs. Webster a widow lady - a friend of my mother, is now erecting a building at her own expense, at Carlyle, to be used as a School room - She was pioneer teacher at the West, previous to her marriage, and, since the death of her husband, has resumed the employment - She wishes now, to resign the school to the care of another, only reserving for herself the superviseing of some of the primary classes - She had accomplished much good there.

During the vacation, my brother George was examined for admission to the church - He will unite at the next communion, and probably two or three others with him - How much these young disciples need the prayers of God's people - that they "endure to the end", and accomplish very great good in the world - George, in his last letter, told us that a few young men in the Institute, had established a Sabbath evening prayer meeting, which they enjoyed very much -

Is your sister fully recovered, and are other friends well?

My parents send much love - Please direct to Dunbarton, as my father will send my letters to me, while I am at Concord.

Have you satisfactory employment in prospect for the coming Season? My best wishes ever, for your success -

Most truly yours.

Antoinette.

Concord, March 18, 1857—

My dear friend,—

Quietly seated, I am, this evening, in the comfortable sitting room of the friend whom I mentioned to you when I last wrote—(Mrs. French) It has been snowing and blowing most furiously, all day long. I take my lessons in Painting about half a mile distant—from here—It was quite a tax upon my strength to keep myself and umbrella upright in my walks, to and fro. My dinner was very kindly sent to me, thus saving me one journey. I have taken four lessons in a day, occupying the time from nine till twelve and from one till four. The time in the mornings, and the evenings, with one or two exceptions, I have spent in reading and talking. Mrs. French and her mother and sister, who live in the same house, are all valuable friends. I prize their society very highly, and I need not add that I have enjoyed, exceedingly my stay with them. I have been reading a most interesting book, written by Mrs. S. Nicholson. It is "Ireland's Welcome to a Stranger". The authoress went to Ireland for the purpose of learning the true condition of the poor there. She went about from one lowly dwelling to another, and the book tells of the

One thing I had forgotten to write. Did you receive a sermon I sent you from "Appletons' Journal"? I wonder if that is standing as usual with its front to Atkinson St. It is the funniest thing, I ever saw. Remember me to Mrs. Bottom, & the North Church people in general. Mr. Channing wrote me a letter, & I sent him one in return.

reception she met -, and the state in which she found the dwellers. They are indeed downtrodden and oppressed. May their day of deliverance speedily come. I really feel interested in poor Ireland - I have also been learning more than I ever knew before of the Canada Mission. Oh! how many ways there are in which to be useful.

Day before yesterday I went, with Mrs. French, to visit a lady in the village, in company with Rev. Mr. Ranson and wife, who are now living in Bennington Vt. But were formerly Missionaries on Western ground - I enjoyed the time there spent very much - Mrs. Ranson is an excellent woman - constantly endeavoring to do good - And then the family we were visiting - it is indeed a model family - There are three of the sweetest children I ever saw - decidedly - How would enjoy spending a half day there, to witness the love, order, and obedience which reign so perfectly - Happy parents, happy children - Each face, silently, but impressively, tales me of the quiet joy within - Since making this visit, I have attended the "Ladies Missionary Meeting". They commence with Scripture reading, and prayer, and occupy the time afterwards, in sewing, while some one of the members reads interesting Missionary Intelligence - There are some of the very best of people in this place -

Last evening I spent very happily with Mrs. French - She has a great variety of curious articles which she brought home from Siam, when she left the Mission Station there - She exhibited them,

and explained their use to me - O! I wish I could remember half she told me. I have thought it over once, and shall endeavor thus to do, many times, that I may retain as much as possible.

I was very happy to receive your letter, dated March 8. Probably, you received one from me, very soon after writing it - Yours did not come to me quite as soon as if I had been at home, but Father sent it as soon as he could - I hope you will find employment precisely to your mind - I know you must feel unpleasantly to be in suspense so long. I should like much to see the "Big pile of wood" and the "Wood Chopper" too. I venture to think I should know him - I feel as though I too, ought to be working harder, - not that I am not busy now, but do you not think I had better be "School ma'am" one summer more, - forgive me for asking, after you have told me you thought it not best, but - I did not know but you might think differently - I deems "all for the best" that I did not return to Reed's Gerry, for Mr. Ruddle has not been in school except the first three days of the term, & is now away, journeying, in quest of health - You may prefer to have me return there for the Summer Term, should Mr. R. resume his place, as it is hoped he will then be able to do - I have funds sufficient, and will do so, if you advise - George came home last Saturday on account of Mr. R's sickness - will go back the Summer term, at least; this is his intention. Father and mother feel anxious to have

George and I visit our relatives in Eastborough Mass., now that he has a few weeks leisure - It is possible we may, after two or three weeks. I shall go home, from Concord, one week from next Saturday. (March 29.)

Spring is really here once more, The winter has fled so rapidly that I can hardly realise that we have had one. The robins have come back to us - dear little creatures. I heard them merrily singing a few days since. Who would not welcom the dear singers back again - The singing of birds never sounds sweeter than in the early Spring. I do not know, though - it must have been very sweet - to listen to them in winter, about the lumber men's camps, as you did - How I did enjoy that account - If you have any more stories of forest life, I shall be most happy to hear about them -

March 22. I thought this sheet would have been on its way to Maine, ere this, but my evenings have been so occupied with meetings and company that I have neglected it -

Father came in to see me two days since - I shall go home in one week from this day. Father said there was a School agents had been in since town meeting to know if I would teach this Summer, so I'll have no trouble to find a place -

I am going this morning to visit the "Natural History Rooms". How happy I should be, were you here to go also. There is quite a flourishing Natural History Society here - They have had lectures every week during the Winter - They are finished now -

But I must stop or Miss Allison will be waiting for me - she is going out with me. And beside it will be time for my Drawing, before a great while -

In haste, but truly as ever,

Antoinette.

Concord N.H.

Mar. 1857

Apr 31 '51

A.B.P. to J.S.M.-

Dunbarton-

Glome, April 30, 1851-

My dear friend,-

The labors of the day are completed, I believe, and, with great pleasure, I commence answering your kind letter, received yesterday. I have been baking and ironing and sewing, and doing a little of almost-everything, during the day, and this evening, for an hour, I have read aloud to my father and mother, as is my practice generally, though father does not always leave his study to listen- It is raining very fast to night- We have had considerable rain during the month, and it has improved the grass and trees wonderfully- The season here is quite early with us- very much in advance of the last year- We have had flowers for six weeks- A vase of May-flowers is by my side while I write, filling the air with perfume and looking so cheerful- The dear little creatures- how I do love them. I think I'll separate one little darling from the group, and send it to you, with one or two others I have just been pressing- They have all grown this very Spring-

I was quite as much surprised to observe the

Father and Mother send much love to you

Mild post-mark on your last letter, as I was on leaving New-York, upon the preceding one. You have journeyed considerably during the few weeks past, and I think you have enjoyed it much, notwithstanding the unpleasantness of being so long chiefly among strangers. I recollect very distinctly many of the cities and towns through which you passed in N. J. It seemed pleasant to me, to hear their names again. I was much interested in the account of your Sabbath in N. J. It was an exceedingly unpleasant day, here. I thought of you, but did not suspect, of course, that you were listening to Dr. Spring or Dr. Cheever. I heard two excellent sermons, on that day, preached by Mr. Marshall from Ind., whose name I believe I have before mentioned in some letter. She was here some weeks last Summer. We expect he will be here next Sabbath, when three individuals are to be admitted to the church, one of them, my brother. He wishes now, to become a minister of the Gospel. How much he needs our prayers may I ask you to remember him? He seems now fully decided with regard to his future course. O may he be very useful, and "endure to the end". He returns to Merrimack, in a little more than two weeks.

Brother G- and I think of occupying the time that remains before his term commences, in visiting some relatives in Boston and Westboro, Mass. This is mother's plan, and she is quite anxious to have it accomplished. If we go, we shall leave home next Monday, and be away, perhaps, a little more than two weeks. After that, mother says she believes she shall claim me, as long as Dunbarton is my home. It will give me great pleasure to comply with her wishes, not only for the sake of gratifying her, but because nowhere have I ever been so happy as at home. I am hoping to find some time for mental culture, and any advice from you, with regard to the best method of spending this time, I should be most happy to follow. I believe I need as much as anything, to take lessons in talking. There is nothing of which I often feel the need than the power of easy and ready expression in conversation. Happer tells the truth about it, - "For at every time to want a word, - thou canst not guess that want; It is as lack of breath or bread: life hath no grief more galling" - I think I shall adopt the plan of reading a passage from some work every day, for the express purpose of reproducing it in my own words, with mother and Jenny for my audience. But

I am occupying considerable space with the story of my planning for the future—

May 1.5 This is the morning of May day - It is raining but the sun seems half shining, and I am thinking the clouds will all fly away before noon. The birds are singing very sweetly, as they do every morning - We usually open the doors for a time to hear their music more plainly - We need no caged birds to sing to us - for we have the "merriest - trills" of the happy, free songsters.

I have been tracing out on the map, the various railroads you have mentioned - I should think it would puzzle you to recollect the names of so many, and yet - they seem to be constantly multiplying - You ask if I should not prefer to be in New-England - I should, indeed - I hope you will be able to obtain the situations on the Hartford and Fishkill road, which you think would suit you so well. Perhaps this delay, which seems so unpleasant, will secure you the very place you will like best - I do hope you will not be low-spirited, and I think you cannot be very low, for I imagine you are one of those who "carry the sunshine with them". - You say you do not wish to get upon another such road as the N. Y. Central - Now let me whisper in your ear, that I feel quite happy that you were once located thereon -

I think I was at Concord when I last wrote - I painted three pictures while there - two were quite large - two were landscapes and the other a representation of a little boy "tired of play" - I enjoyed my stay at C. very much - I think it was a benefit in many respects -

Father saw Mr. Tilley a short time since - He has much to encourage him among his people - a number are to unite with the church there next Sabbath - and there still continues to be a good deal of interest.

Is there preaching still at Lisle?

I am glad your dear sister seems gaining at all - The Spring weather is said not to be very good for those in feeble health - It seems to affect Mother somewhat, but I think she will be well as usual, when Summer comes.

I need not say I should have been happy to see you at D - But I do not much wonder that you did not come for I think Dunkirk may be a difficult of access as was the place you mention where you found your relations, in N. Y - and I do not know as there is any prospect of anything better. It would be very pleasant to enjoy your society for a number of days or as long as you could stay, now that you are out of employ - This is a fine place to study - But I must stop - From your affectionate

So night your kind letter, dated at

Chicago, reached me. I cannot tele you how rejoiced I was to hear from you, or how much I thank you for writing. I thought I would give myself the pleasure of sitting down directly to begin a letter, for it is a "perfect comfort" to write to you. In Illinois! You have found the prairie-land - but how far away! A feeling of loneliness comes over me when I think how many miles are between us. When shall I ever see you? It does seem as though I could not relinquish this pleasure which I have been hoping to enjoy - for two very long weeks I have watched every day - When the door bell rung my first thought was of you, and I have opened the door, almost expecting to greet you, but now I do not know but I shall despair. I do truly feel disappointed - But I must not write thus, for I believe you will go just where duty seems calling.

I hope you will find just such a situation

as you wish - May that God who holds worlds in his hand, and yet takes care of every little flower, watch over you everywhere, and guide your pathway always.

How long you are obliged to wait for letters - I sympathize with you truly - You must be exceedingly anxious to have some tidings from Maine - particularly from your dear sister. Is she in Bangor now, or at Lisle?

Perhaps you are at Springfield by this time - I passed through many of the places you mention when going west, and at precisely the same season of the year; commenced the journey the first week in June from Albany westward - You must enjoy journeying now, I think, in this sweetest of months - beautiful June. Everything is delightful here. It seems like "a new and perfect world", fresh and bright, and oh so fair. I sometimes almost forget that I have anything to do but listen to bird music - look at the grass and trees and flowers, watch the shadows, and from the loveliness that is everywhere around, "take in my priceless portion". But you are looking at nature's scenes, quite as enchantingly fair, though differently characterized - I am going to

Springfield I presume you will pass directly through Lockport, where I attended church and spent much time - I used to think it a beautiful place then, but it is probably much improved now - The canal passing through was just finished only a few weeks before I came home. - But it is quite late, and I am sitting here all alone while I have written, and I anticipate I ought to stop -

June 26. To day I returned with my father from the village of London Mills, where we went to attend the "Conference of Churches" - The meetings were very interesting indeed - I never enjoyed any more. I do hope the impression will remain, and make me a great deal better - but I don't know; I sometimes feel totally discouraged - How we need to be constantly heeding the injunction "Watch and pray" - I surely have not a single doubt of the truths of the Bible description of the natural heart - "deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked" - Resolutions, very many I make, but, Oh, so little real progress - How happy those must be, who, bearing the Christian name, can work for Jesus, not alone for duty's sake, but because the "Love of Christ constrains them".

I had a fine ride to London - We had delightful weather and a great many ministers were present, making the meeting rather more than usually interesting. Since I came home, I have called to see some sick neighbors - two ladies - one of whom has been sick for a long time. I carried some strawberries - We are just beginning to have them in abundance - hope you have as many as you wish - I should love dearly to give you some of ours.

I believe I have not told you anything of the last journey - I enjoyed it finely - We had pleasant days during the whole two weeks we were away, and the warmest of welcomes from dear friends, not one of whom failed to make inquiries for yourself - all were very anxious to see you. Spent several days in Boston and left there for home, just one week before the day you journeyed from Bangor to Boston, on the way to St. John. While there we visited Mount Auburn - Have you ever been there? It is truly a lovely spot - One loves to linger there. If all those sleeping ones might rise to live and reign in Heaven, no sad thoughts of the day when the trump shall sound would mingle with the pleasure of a visit - to this "garden of graves" - I brought away some little acorns, as a relic.

— I have commenced reading a ponderous volumn of Stephen's Travels - I have so many interruptions that I know not when I shall arrive at the end - but - I mean to persevere - You have taught me a lesson of perseverance. It must have been exceedingly discouraging to find place after place - either already occupied, or not ready. Onward, still onward, till you were away in Illinois, and how much farther ere this, I know not - I venture to hope no farther - this seems a long distance, but - I do love the very name of Illinois - It is connected with some of the dearest remembrances of my life.

June 20 1857

Antoinette Dunlap N. D.
July 19. 1890
Mr Hopkins Aug. 2 1885

This perhaps, makes it purer. I never saw whiskey used as you mention, or any Ardent Spirits. Horrible, is it not, to be taught from very childhood, to love the drunkards beverage! Your decision may have a good influence. I tried hard to learn to drink Coffee, but did not succeed. Do you have a Belle, or only a substitute for one? I was just wondering too, whether you drink a "glass of water". For I used to drink from saucers, cups, bowls, pitchers &c.

The rest of the family are just at supper now (I do not go without mine, by the way. I only ate it quick) perhaps you are eating in that airy room with two open ends. I think that must be a good, cool place some of these warm days. If I knew the how the house stands, and the direction of the barn from it, I should have the whole picture in my mind. Does it stand on the open prairie or near to the timber?

Now have a Work Bench for your table - my trunk was mine. I used to write, kneeling before it sometimes. But oftener I sat upon it

where home is in Lamoille, this letter, written a few miles of Bramerton
here in to visit Miss Hall, was a home in Sweden, Shotton
who resided in Bramstead St. H., summer. She was Mr. Thinking of
an expecting every day -

dear friends
away, I
can't but
remember
Gods Love
Home, where
Christians
live united
as it always
together -

July 19 - I sit down joyfully to write, for I am very,

Your letter
from Spring-
field found
in due season
and read
and re-read
all with
pleasure.

Mr. Otis
intends to
send a letter
to Portland
by the first
opportunity.

I am glad
that the
decision not
to remain
at home
was not
made
sooner.
I do hope
the fever
will be
kept far
away - and
every thing
else that
is naughty.

very happy that you can have some letters yourself now - Yours reached me a few minutes since. I have read it - twice, and have looked on the Map to trace your journey, and see where you are. I need not tell you I am overjoyed to hear from you - I feel almost as if I had journeyed westward - traversed the prairies, and revisited log-cabins - I am glad you are in no worse a condition - A comfortable barn, or indeed a barn of any description, was, four years ago one of the extras of western country life, and in the settlement where I spent a year, there was but one double log-house. So I am looking at the sunny side of the picture, and feeling very thankful that you have found so good a shelter - But how I do want to send you some of our good, pure, cold water. I know how to sympathize, truly. I used to drink as seldom and as rapidly as possible, for it seemed unendurable - Some put Indian Meal in the water, and let it settle before drinking

Antoinette Dunlevy N. D.
July 19. 1890
Mr Hopkins Aug. 2 1890

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Now have a Work Bench for your table - my trunk was mine. I used to write, kneeling before it sometimes. But oftener I sat upon it -

holding a little portable desk, on which I write. Your letter quite brings back to me prairie life in all its wildness. Notwithstanding the frequent inconveniences, there is much to enjoy: and we learn that happiness consists not alone in the elegancies, or even the comforts of life.

Now I'll leave the West for a little while, and tell you something of what is transpiring in this small corner of the world. Father had gone to Manchester to preach tomorrow, and Mr. Wallace, good man, is with us. Father is in usual health. My mother has for four or five weeks been unusually ill; but she has seemed gradually gaining during the present week. Sister Jenny is well, and attending school.

A cousin, nine years old, came home with me from Westboro' Mass. Her name is Harriet Brigham. She is the daughter of one of my mother's brothers. She also attends school. I find myself quite busily employed in caring for our little family and attending to company, of which we have more than usual. I am enjoying the summer very much. Have been at home but one summer

Mother says she is very glad that I have this ability to do for others. Thought you are writing friends, you love, and an opportunity to do so.

before for a number of years.

Brother George is at Merrimack still, but the term closes next week, and he will be home for some weeks. Father thinks of sending him to "Union Academy" at Plainfield N. H. in the Autumn. He selects this place on account of the advantages for pursuing Classical Studies, and in order to avail himself of the Grant of that Institution, for the benefit of students who attend; which will very much reduce the expense.

George was at home two or three days the first of the month - came home the third of July and remained until the fifth, when he went to Glenmiller to a Celebration, which, but for rain, would have been attended on the fourth. The Manchester and Goffstown Sabbath Schools went. About 4000 people were present, and the Addresses were said to be fine. The clergymen from the several towns were the Speakers. Instead of going to Celebration I went to ride with Father, in the afternoon. Jenny and Hattie went also. Poor, dear mother was left at home, because she did not feel able to go. She is better now. She has been to ride almost every day for two weeks and it is very beneficial. It rained tremendously, almost all day on the 4th, but we were unusually happy at home.

I went to Mr. Raymond's a few days since, to carry to the cars two ladies who had been visiting here. - stopped for supper with Mrs. William Raymond. The family are all well, except Mary. I do not know whether or not you are acquainted with her. She has been unwell for some time, and it is feared she will not recover. She is inclined to consumption. I love to go to see Mrs. Raymond. I feel more acquainted with her than with almost any one in our own town. All my most intimate friends seem to be at a distance, and I keep the acquaintance almost entirely by writing. One of my very dear school mates, Emily Leavey,

Antoinette Dunbarton N.H.
Aug. 17. 1851
Mt. Hawkins Ill. Sept. 13.

Dunbarton, Aug 17, /51 –

I welcomed your kind letter, my dear friend, yesterday afternoon – very gladly I assure you. In the evening I sat down and attempted to write something in reply; but found myself so tired that the idea was soon relinquished. I could not pick up a single thought – that was in any way possible – We have had constant company for more than two weeks, and more than usual all summer. I enjoy this very much; but at times feel somewhat wearied. I never had so many cares, as a housekeeper, before; – perhaps it is just – what I need. And, I do not know how it happens, but I believe that notwithstanding all these domestic duties, I have found more time than ever before, when at home, for reading. Two ladies are visiting here now, and, since they have been here, (nearly two weeks, one of them) we have read considerable aloud every day. Last night – I have been reading

To Mrs. Root one of your company & Engineers wife an Eastern man?

what Gulliver says on Death. I have read it many times before, but it always seems new, and always more full of thought.

— I have attended church all day, and Sabbath school at noon. Probably you have been unable to find a meeting. But the heart may be a sanctuary pure and holy, where God as truly dwells and smiles, as in the midst of the great congregation. But it really is a very great privation to be unable to meet God, and worship him, in his earthly temple, with those who bear his image. When this cannot be how pleasant to know that we may find God everywhere. It seems to me difficult to feel as if it was truly the Sabbath and to require great watchfulness to be entirely in a Sabbath day mood when one cannot go to meeting. It seems like one long week, without the change and rest the Sabbath gives, when employed in the usual way.

Monday 5 To day I have been washing, and cooking, and, this afternoon, mending for my father, and reading a very little — just — enough to say I have caught — a new idea. Some writer says we should always do as much as this, ere we sleep. I deem it a very good rule.

I cannot avoid feeling some anxious lest your health should be injured by Illinois climate. I am sorry you have been sick and very glad you seem so far to have regained health & strength, and I shall try to imagine you well and strong. Do not work hard till you are fully well. Father and mother feel, as I suppose they would, some solicitude about the effect of the climate - more so, I presume, than if I had not once been there; and found it, in the northern part, unfavorable to health. Still I think, and they do, that I might have been well in time; and that perhaps disease was induced by too great labor, and too many cares - and not sufficient effort to preserve health. I should perhaps know better how to do, were I to go again. If there seems a probability that you will remain there, and that you will, as you mention, before a great while wish somebody to be there with you - you would without doubt, like to tell Antoinette how you are planning to live, that she may know better what to do, to be ready.

For myself it matters not much where I am, provided that "true warm heart" is near, for me to trust in. Were I sad a moment, it would be for my dear parents. For them, I should love

to be nearer New-England - But they will be content with what Providence appoints. The climate is the chief objection, in their view.

What has occurred with regard to your pay must be exceedingly gratifying to you, not so much for the additional profit - as for the good will and confidence so decidedly manifested. I enjoy this with you - It is a delightful feeling to be conscious of gaining friends though in a strange land.

Two weeks of Brother George's vacation are gone. I went to Merrimack, to attend the examination at the close of last term and enjoyed it much. met many of my former school-mates there. I may have mentioned, in a previous letter, that George is going to Meriden Academy - He expects to be admitted as a beneficiary there We feel very glad of this, for now he can study without embarrassment. Father thinks he will stay three years if his health should be good. We had nearly decided not to send him to College, but to have him pursue an independent course, that he may avoid spending time with branches which will be nearly or quite useless to him. What think you of this plan? - I cannot tell you how much I enjoy this being at home. But this pleasure will soon be past. We go the thirtieth of this month.

George has procured some dumb bells to take with him - Mother and I had a nice time trying them to night - After that we went out to see the sun set - This has been a delightful day, and its close was very beautiful. One of my new ideas is constantly dodging into my head while I am writing perhaps wishing it to be noticed on paper. So I'll put it down - "The one I saw this day before". I wonder if there ever were two days exactly alike - Another sentence I read this day struck me very forcibly - It is, moreover, an old thought - in a new dress - 'Tis this - "I am a part of all that I have met" It is a solemn thought that we leave impressions on all we meet, as well as receive them.

Sunday -)

I think I spoke, in a previous letter, of a visit from a very dear friend - Emilie Peavey. A friend of hers - Dr. Putnam, accompanied her. Dr. P. is a very distant relative of ours. We call him cousin. Since writing last, another dear friend has been here - Elisabeth Burnham, - with a Mr. Hatch, of whom I speak, because he is a Maine gentleman - a graduate of Waterville College. Lizzie tells me she thinks he had been you, and that you were members of College ~~at the same time~~, and of the same Society, while in College, though in different Institutions. Emilie and Lizzie, with Augusta Webster of Barnstead, N. H. were my dearest school-mates at Gilmanton Academy, and we have ever since been friends, in the strictest sense of the word. Emilie is to be married in the Spring, and perhaps Lizzie also. They are dear girls, and their letters, particularly Emilie's, I prize very much. Mrs. Hale, my teacher when at G., has written to me for more than four years. She is a lady of 45 years, I should think; and her letters are a treasure.

By this time, I hope you have been made glad by news from your friends in Maine.

how long it takes now to get letters. I do not see but, with the utmost promptness, there must be ad much as four weeks between. Do you find pleadant companions among your company of enginers? — Do you not find the food very different from what you have been accustomed to? This may affect your health.

I saw Mrs. Raymond sabbath day. She was obliged for your remembrance and sends to you her kind regards. She said I must tele you she hoped you would not stay in Illinois.

Parents, brother and sister send much love, but none half so much as your

Antoinette

Antoinette
Dunbarton N.H.
Sept. 23. 1851
Jonesboro Oct. 18

Dunbarton, Sept. 23, - 1851 -

My dear friend, -

More than five weeks have passed since I have heard from you - It seems a very long time, but - I presume a letter must be somewhere on the way. I was thinking to night - that if you are as anxious as I, for a letter, you would like to have me write without waiting for an answer, - so I have taken my pen and commenced. I am watching to night - by my dear, sick mother's bedside. She has been unable to sit up more than a few minutes at once, for more than a week. At first, she took a violent cold, and, for two or three days, coughed almost incessantly and very hard, - and at night - was deprived almost entirely of sleep. This took away the little strength she had, and she has since been completely prostrated.

We hope she is beginning to be a little better, though there seems hardly any perceptible difference. I have had the whole care of her, by day & night. I am very thankful that I am at

Dear Annah Rose: I hope you have had good news from friends in Lowell before this. I spent a pleasant evening at Mr Ladd's in Boston a week ago Tuesday. I should like to have been longer. I shall be glad to hear from you soon. Yours truly
Antoinette

home, and have health to perform what necessarily devolves on me.

I believe I spoke in some letter, of Augusta Webster, a school mate. Since I last wrote she has been here, and spent a little more than a week. After she left another old friend of my school days came, and passed several days, and last week my uncle, a brother of mothers, pastor of a church in Bridgewater, Mass., came and made us a visit, with his wife. They had just been to Westboro where my mothers relatives reside, to attend the funeral of my grandfather Brigham. He died Sept. 15, and was buried on the afternoon of the 16th. He was in his 90th year. Brother George and I went to see him last Spring. He talked a good deal with me — one thing he said was. "I am tired of living, and I hope I am going very soon to a better world". He stood by me leaning on his cane, tremblingly, as he said this, but — his eye was undimmed ~~and bright~~, and the quiet-joy of a peaceful, happy spirit seemed beaming through it. As he turned and walked slowly away, tottering, and seeming almost afraid to step, I could not but be thankful that though the earthly tabernacle was soon to be dissolved he had in reserve, as we confidently hoped "a building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens". Whither we trust — he has gone — dear,

good, old man! She said to my aunt, a few days before she died - "You will not come to see me many more times - I shall soon die - but I'm not afraid - not a bit afraid to trust - myself with Christ". A tear dimmed his eye as he said this - O for this childlike confidence in God! We cannot mourn, - but rather rejoice and give thanks that, tired of life, they "good may die". - My grandparents now, are all dead - I am very fond of the society of old people, and I dearly loved to visit - them - But they are all gone now -

- My mind is all in confusion to night - A great many people are sick here, and then I have been reading, and hearing about the Chol- -era in Cairo and Springfield. I have thought - about it, because I could not help it, till I know not what to do with myself - Perhaps you will think I am foolish to be troubled - but I do hope you will escape. Sept. I believe, is considered one of the worst months for sickness in the year -

Do you find the "Well Spring" and "Messenger" where you now are? These little papers continue to be full of interest. Our last number of the Home Missionary told us much of Illinois, and the improvements there projected. The Central Rail-Road was noticed among other things. There was an extract - from a letter

written by the Missionary Stationed at Du Luth. Father is greatly interested in Minnesota. The day When he goes West to live, he shall go there.

Brother George has gone to Meriden, as he expected to attend the Academy - We have heard from him twice, and he seems to be quite happy - a good boarding place, a good, pious, room mates, & teachers whom he can love and confide in.

Before G- went away he gave me a Daguerreotype miniature of himself - Since that father had had one taken of himself and mother, together for me - I do wish I had just one other - and particularly, now that the original is so far, and so long away, that it seems as if I never should see him.

(Thursday Afternoon, Sept 25.) This is a glorious day, and I could'nt help longing all this forenoon to be out in the glad sunshine and feel the fresh air - I think I shall go out, by and by a little while - Mother seems some better to day - She had been up half an hour. I have not been out of doors at all since she was sick, except to go to church last Sabbath. — How strange it seems that autumn is here so quick. The long summer days are all gone. Every year goes faster than the former. How dream-like seems the whole of life. But we are hastening, thus rapidly, to a world of realities, and may we be ready to meet them.

Jenny sends love - She is gathering flowers and Ruth to day - Whenever she finds an unusually beautiful flower she runs to me with it, and asks very meaningly Did'nt you wish somebody was here to see it. I believe she always calls you, somebody.

I shall wait as patiently as possible for a letter. One may come to day. Should it not be as well for us both to write at regular intervals without waiting for replies? I should be glad to get a letter as often as once in two weeks, if it is convenient for you -

I suppose you are roaming about, not over hills and valleys but over prairies, and "timber", and perhaps crossing a stream now and then - well, and very happy I hope - Father and mother

Augusta Me
Oct. 9. 1851
M. H

Dunbarton N. H.

Antoinette

Hillsboro Oct. 29.
Jonesboro Nov 17 / 1851 Dunbarton, N. H. Oct. 4- 1851-

My dear friend,-

A part of this quiet Saturday evening I must spend in writing to you. Your kind letter was most gladly received, though of course I was extremely sorry to hear such tidings of your health. I shall feel quite anxious till I hear from you again- I fear the climate will prove decidedly unhealthy, and am very glad that you seem so decided not to remain, should this be the case. I think, as you do, that health is of the greatest importance, and I am fearful that, if you remain in Illinois, you will never regain the perfect health you enjoyed so constantly in New England. But I will leave this to your own wisdom and good judgement-, for I think you can decide best about it.

How pleasant it would be, could you spend the morrow with us - I shall think of you many times during the day. It is certainly a very great deprivation to be destitute of Sabbath day privileges. To spend bright, beautiful Sabbaths at home because it is impossible to join a

Stop for the present; but health is every thing, almost. All send much love. Ever truly, Yours

meeting to attend is almost - unendurable. My sighs and tears and longings for my own dear home when at the East were nearly limited to such Sabbaths - After the hands where I was boarding would be full of visitors almost - the whole day, and all seemed to feel that it was emphatically the time to feast - and make merry. I could hardly realize that I had a Sabbath at all. My uncle, my father's brother, is with us to night, - and preaches to-morrow - So father will have a day to rest again - glad of it, for he needs it.

Mother is very much better - She has rapidly improved during the last week. Father has taken her to ride almost every day. This does more good than anything else, I believe. We are happy enough I assure you, to have her sit with us again at table, and be a little, talk as usual, and tell Jenny and I, - (the housekeepers) how and what to do, when we are at a loss to know - It is very pleasant to have a counsellor. I am having a very easy, comfortable time now, with just enough to do. School is done, and Jenny can help considerable, and little cousin Hattie is gone home to her parents, so that we are but four.

We had another letter from George, two or three days since - He seemed to be entering with all his powers, into

the business of sermonizing, already. He began writing sermons before he went from home, during his vacation, merely for the sake of trying. He was quite amused, as well as gratified, at his apparent enthusiasm. He writes that he has "purchased a volume entitled 'The Pulpit Encyclopaedia, and Christian Minister's Companion'; containing 360 Skeletons and Sketches of Sermons, and 82 essays on Biblical learning, Theological Studies, and the Composition and Delivery of Sermons, - containing 611 paged." I hope he will be as much in earnest to gain that experimental and spiritual knowledge, which is indispensible to the faithful, effectual preacher.

Oct 6. Wednesday. Four days have passed since I have written a word. Monday was washing day, as usual, and Tuesday ironing, and a meeting in the afternoon, and beside uncle was here until Tuesday morning - so I did not have so much time as I sometimes have. - Indeed I did not try so hard to find time, as I should, had I not dispatched a letter to Illinois, only a few days before your card came. I hope that has reached you before this. Another thing makes me busy this week - I am copying for Father into a new book his Record of Texts, with the date of the day on which the sermon therefrom was preached. There's a long list - I assure you - He had been so long in one place that he had not the

opportunity to make use of the same sermon a number of times which some have.

Last week I went with father to Concord. I enjoyed the ride, and the glorious autumnal scenery very much. It seemed to me the trees had never before assumed colors so lifelike so brilliant and lustrous. No wonder the poor foreigner thought America had painted trees. The leaves already begin to fall, and while I write, they drop, one by one, from the maple trees by the door. Father says he does not love to think summer is gone - he likes the warm weather.

Does it seem any like New England when you are at the Roots? Or, have they become thoroughly westernized by this time? Does he have a considerable audience to listen to his Sabbath Service? I was much interested in the story of your Sabbath experience. I have never attended a Class Meeting - but from what I have known about them I have formed a very favorable opinion. Mother has attended them, and has often said she thought a similar service would be of great benefit to any people.

Very glad you found so good and kind a friend in Dr Lucas and hope his care and prescriptions have made you much better ere this. I suppose it will be some time before you will be fully well and strong again, even if you recover as rapidly as could be expected. It seems as if I could hardly wait for your next letter, to tell me how you are. I believe I mentioned in the last letter, that I should be glad to hear once in two weeks - Perhaps you will think this altogether too great a demand on your time - If so, of course I would be unwilling to have it so; - but a very short letter will do a very great deal of good.

I am writing in father's study now, and I do wish you could hear the music - It is a delightful day; warm as Summer, and the buzzing fly, the chirping cricket & the "hum-drum grasshopper" are performing each their part, and a merry little bird perched on the topmost bough of a maple tree, plays an interlude occasionally. But I must stop, or the mail will be gone - But one thing I had almost forgotten - Father wished me to ask whether, if you decide to remain West - Minnesota would not be as promising a field of labor? I suppose it is for health - perhaps even a better climate than New England - I believe father thinks it perfection. I did not like to ask, because I did not love to think of your being a

Hattie dear letter to day. Ive spent nuts and ate breakfast writes all this morning. Ive taken no color I think I do know we be well as natural. A week or two ago, I was so tired out by the rendezvous to help Nina finish the "linen". She never could be persuaded to lie down and rest, although I begged her to do so. Finally, however, she left the room, and I threw myself on the bed, and was soon fast asleep. I slept about an hour, when I was awakened by the sound of voices in the parlor. Mr. Wilson had come, and was talking with Nina. I could not help hearing what they said, and I was very much surprised to learn that Mr. Wilson was engaged to be married to Miss Lizzie Hall, and that the wedding was to take place in a few days. I was very much surprised, for I had never suspected that there was anything between them. I thought Mr. Wilson was engaged

self so nicely and kindly provided for. And then you were where the advice of a physician could be obtained. Indeed, though the cadaverous pills had enough, it might have been far worse. Mrs. Merrill, the wife of our physician, was in yesterday, and told us about their oldest son, who is in Vermillion County, Illinois, about 15 miles from Danville. They had just received a letter, stating that he, and the family of his cousin, with whom he boards, consisting of his wife and child, were all sick with the Ague and unable to do anything, and nobody to help them - fifteen miles from the Post Office, and from medical aid. Besides, the Doctor charges fifteen dollars a visit, so that sending for him would be a last resort. I was almost sorry I heard it; for I fancied at once that you two might be among the suffering ones. Dr. and Mrs. feel sadly about their son. They fear his health will be entirely undermined. I believe he is not able to come home at present.

You say I must think of you, and pray for you, and advise. The first two I cannot help doing many times a day - nor would I. The advice is a more difficult matter, just now. You need some one who knows better what to tell you. But I believe I will write to you just what I think, though it may not be much help to you about deciding. I was much as you have lived through the most sickly part of the season,

Your letters are [illegible] Dept. D.C. and the last Oct. 9, I directed to Mount Martin's Depot, one at Cadiz, has reached you safely. Do not fail to acknowledge receipt and may Heaven bless and keep you. Your affectionate brother

perhaps it would be best {O dear, how can I say it} to remain through the winter, since it is probable you may be well during that time. But I cannot think comfortably of your spending another Spring or Autumn. I should think the first of March would not be too early to leave in order to come away free from the Ague. It would seem hardly worth while to leave, just as the healthiest part of the season is coming, when you have lived through the worst, and with a favorable prospect for employment too. Perhaps, in the mean time, by writing to friends at the East you could secure for another year, a good situation, in a healthier clime. Business prospects are certainly quite flattering. I do not despise money, for money we must have, while we live in the world; but we all deem it, as I think you do, one of the least things to be considered; and when weighed in the balance with health, how little worth it seems. — So I do not think you will stay for the money's sake. Half the salary elsewhere, with health, is better, at least, so it seems to me.

It is very hard work for me to advise you to stay the winter, when I think how long it is since I have seen you. Do you know how long? In a few days, it will have been a year, a whole year. And it is very easy for me to believe it, for it has seemed very long. And then to think of another long winter! But I shall try to bear it with all the patience I can summon.

Sabbath eve.} Ruthie has been detained from church

Antoinette Oct. 28. 51 Danbarton N.H.

to day on account of sickness. the first-time for many years. She suffered from Neuralgia all the week, and yesterday, and Friday, we very much feared a fever, but we hope now to be able to throw it off.

Lonestown Nov. 15

In the forenoon, one of our good deacons read a sermon, and this afternoon the Baptist-minister came over and preached in our house, bringing his congregation with him.

I hope you have not been sick to day. Do you not look with longing eyes, whence away lies home on these Sabbaths? Or, do you always enjoy the present as well as you can, not allowing yourself to think much about pleasures that might-be? Perhaps you have learned to "let the dead past bury its dead", and "act in the living present". How much good there is in that "Psalm of Life". I do love it.

Last Sabbath, I was sick, and could not go to Church. The rain poured in torrents all day. But just as night was coming, the clouds flew away, and the Sun came out in triumph. I do enjoy the quiet of a bright Sabbath evening. Its stillness seems to speak to the soul so soothingly, of truer bliss, and an unending Sabbath of pleasure, at God's right hand. O for a home at last in that world of perfect peace. We do't have much to make us love Heaven. Perhaps God takes our dear ones there, that our thoughts and affections may follow them. Still, they are but lesser lights, to guide our way to the great Sun of Righteousness.

I think you I was sick - it was only for a day or two, and I am well as ever now.

Oct. 28. We are having winter here before this time. Yesterday morning, when we rose, the ground was all covered with snow, and the cold wind blew it about all day long, and piled it up in heaps. To day it is very still, and somewhat warmer, and probably the snow will all be gone in a day or two. You will not be likely to have very cold weather to endure, if you stay West I suppose. But I believe the cold never troubled you much.

Antoinette Dunbarton N.H.
Nov. 4. - 71.

Jonesboro. Nov. 26. 1851

Sunday eve, - 4th Nov., 1852

My dear friend, -

Yours of Oct. 19, - reached me to day, and to night, - as I recount the innumbered blessings that surround me, my heart is full of gladness, and, I trust, - of true gratitude, to the Giver of every good and perfect gift: My dear parents, who have both been laid aside by disease, seem now to have regained their wonted health, and can engage as usual in their customary duties and labors, and your letter just received, brings the glad news of your own returning health and strength, - so how can I but rejoice? Truly, God "is good to all, and his tender mercies are over all his works."

I am very glad you are gaining the lost pounds, and hope you will not be disturbed by any return of the Ague. I presume you may be as well as usual during the winter months, but - I shall fear, if you stay longer than this, that you will have some unwelcome visits. I judge thus from my own ex-

I believe I wrote declined to Jonesboro, as I did my last letter, though I finally - knew which it was, - as I daily expected a letter from Jonesboro, or Mt Pleasant, - announcing - its arrival: - Mt Pleasant

perience. I never was more perfectly well, than during the Winter in Illinois, but, with the coming of Spring, the disease returned with as much violence as ever. I know this is not the case with all, and you might be among the fortunate; but would it be best to run the risk? I do think a healthier location very desirable, and I really cannot endure to think of your spending another season in Illinois.

Monday Nov. 10 - Almost a week since I began writing - but - it had been a busy one; and moreover, I did not feel so much in haste as sometimes, because I had dispatched a letter only a few days before yours reached me - I think they come here pretty regularly, as a general thing, usually reaching me about two weeks from the date of mailing. There were but nine days between the last two, and, as four weeks is the usual time, I almost feared to open it, lest it should tell me something sad; but I could not wait, and was very soon rejoicing to find all well. I am hoping now to hear in two weeks. This will make the long distance between us, seem twice as short.

Perhaps, ere this, Col. Deaton and the newly appointed Engineer have arrived, and you relinquished the

honors, with the vexations too, of your station.
$3000,00 is indeed a large salary - more perhaps than could be obtained in New England - But the care must be considerable, and, as you say, in heading so great pay, you escape the burden of responsibility also, so never mind the loss, but "hope on".
- It is evening, as it usually is when I sit down to write, and we have just finished family devotions We usually sing, and to night we sung the evening hymn commencing "The day is past and gone". These are precious seasons. I shall never, never forget them, go where I may - But our circle is more broken than usual to night - so it makes us who are left draw closer together. Mother had become so well that she had left us, and gone to visit her relatives in Westboro', Mass., and it seems as if half the brightness of our home is gone - She went thus suddenly, chiefly because of a sick sister, whose health it was thought might be benefitted by her presence. She is exceedingly nervous, and mother, though never well herself, is a very cheerful body, and perhaps will drive the "blues" away from Aunt Martha's - It is possible she may come back with mother, and try the effect

of a change of air, and scene, upon her health. Mother will probably be away three or four weeks, and right - glad I shall be when she returns to us, for it seems lonely enough without her.

We have been having more snow to day - the ground is perfectly covered again, but the storm seems to be over now and it is growing wintry-cold - I do not know whether, or not I have told you that father had purchased the whole of "Abbotts Series" of Histories, so that we are finely provided with interesting reading for the long evenings - Father comes out and sits with us, while we read - We have finished "Cyrus", "Darius" and "Xerxes", and have commenced "Alexander the Great". We enjoy these reading very much - I wish you could be with us - We sit around the table, the fire burning brightly before us, the tea-kettle singing, and Pussy purring in the corner, looking up very wisely now and then, to show her interest in the subject - There, Father has come this moment, with the book in his hand, ready to begin reading - So I must stop now, and finish this in the morning.

11th Morning has come, and a glorious one it is. The snow covered ground sparkled like the starlit sky of evening; and churches and quiet dwellings, hills, valleys, and distant mountains, are all luxuriating in the golden sunlight. Father had gone to visit a School, and Lenny had gone too, to enjoy the first sleigh-ride.

I must write a letter to mother to go by to days mail, so with much love, and my kindest good morning, I close. Father and Lenny send love -

Yours as ever truly, Antoinette.

Gloma, Nov. 22, 1857

Jonesboro Dec. 8. 1857

My dear Friend,-

Yours of the fifth inst. lies before me - It had been just about two weeks in coming and it does seem good, I assure you to get a letter so soon. I am sorry the mails are so irregular with you, and that it takes so long a time for news to reach you from the East. I do not think Southern Illinois is a very favorable situation, and I shall be glad as I presume you will, to have you located more pleasantly and comfortably. You must have had a disagreeable and discouraging Summer and Autumn, and I do hope matters will be so arranged that the Winter may be one of health and happiness. I do not think you would be deprived of so many privileges, in the Northern part of the State.

Dear mother has come home this afternoon from her visit to Mass. I believe I wrote in the last letter that she had gone. She has been absent

I hope you hear good news from Maine. How do your mother and sister feel, about your remaining in Illinois? I hope you will not stay - but perhaps Georgia not so far. I sometimes ache to be with Lizzie for the Winter and not there. Love - Gratton and mother send love - Found everyone in love, Antoinette.

about three weeks. She endured the journey & the visiting very well, and thinks she has gained some strength. The riding had fatigued her so she does not feel very bright this evening. She says she is glad to get home, and we are all most certainly glad to have her. I only wish you were here too, to help us be happy. How I should enjoy it! Mother has talked to us, as much as she was able, about the friends she has seen, and little incidents of her journey; and we have told her as much as we could what we have been doing at home, and what had occurred during her absence. And then I have been singing for father and mother some of their favorite hymns and chants, and now it is past nine o'clock, and I am left all alone. This is the time when I write most of my letters - after nine in the evening.

A letter from George came to day. His term is now through, but he is spending vacation at Meriden, and employing the time in studying music. He is at the same Academy father attended when fitting for College, and I was thinking a few days since, how very differently they were situated. Father decided to commence studying, left the track he

no learning, and with a small bundle under his arm containing his all of books, or clothes, he walked one hundred miles from his home in Sutton, Mass., to the Academy. He was the seventh of a poor, widowed mothers' eight sons. He had poverty and ill health to contend with, through his whole course of study. But he found some of the very best of friends, wherever he went, who did all for him that kindness could dictate. George, I suppose would be classed among the poor boys, but he is certainly very comfortably situated, when we compare his case with fathers'. In the cars, with his well filled trunks, he would have seemed rich to the lone, penniless Boy, bearing his scanty wardrobe, and counting the weary hours, on foot. But father says he enjoyed himself finely all the while he was studying - He was rich in friends -

But I must stop here - it is too late to write more to night -

Sabbath evening, Nov. 23. I have just finished writing in my "Sermon book", what I could recollect of to-days discourses, and happenned to think you might be interested in a piece of a Congregational Sermon, for a change; so I will venture to send you an outline of fathers Sermon

this afternoon as I have it in my book -

Text - Col. 2: 10. "And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power".

Theme - Those who receive Christ - will have their highest wants supplied.

I Consider man's wants.

II. Consider the fact that those who receive Christ will have every want completely supplied.

I. Man's wants. 1. He wants saving knowledge. Man has knowledge by which he can make the rivers his road, and the ocean his highway. He can measure the distance to the sun and the stars, and make the lightenings of heaven do his bidding. He can weigh the hills in scales and the mountains in a balance - He possesses powers and faculties which fit him to be a companion of angels, - and yet he needs that knowledge which will save the soul. All else is vain. - 2 - Man needs justifying righteousness. No one can obtain this by his own merits. - 3 - He needs the aids of the Holy Spirit. 4. He needs an Almighty Friend, to protect him against the evils which encompass him. 5 Man wants a home in Heaven. We know how dear is an earthly home and how we pity the poor wanderer who has no home. No home in all this wide, unfriendly world! Well may we love our earthly home; but we need a home beyond the skies, when the turmoil of life shall be past.

II. Consider the fact, that those who receive Christ, will have every want completely supplied. Do we need saving knowledge? Christ can impart it. He is the medium of communication between God and fallen man. The word was made flesh and dwelt among us. - Do we need justifying righteousness? Christ is the end of the law to every one that believeth. Do we need the aids of the Holy Spirit? Christ had promised his followers that he will send them the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost. Do we need an Almighty friend? Christ is such. He has all power in Heaven and on earth; and he has said he will never leave nor forsake those who trust in him. - Do we need a home in Heaven? Christ will provide us this. He says - "In my Father's house are many mansions. I go to prepare a place for you".

The sermon closed with an application of the subject - both to the professed followers of Jesus, and to the unconverted.

Monday eve - Nov. 24. This is a cold, uncomfortable evening - I have just come in from a meeting of the choir. We are preparing some pieces to sing. Thanksgiving day. I suppose it will be long after Thanksgiving before you get this letter. I hope it will be a pleasant day to you.

Antoinette Dec. 51. Dunbarton

Conesboro Ill. Jan. 52

Home, Dec. 2. 1851

My dear friend.

The last mail brought your letter of Nov. 20. and made my heart glad. I really do not know what I should do without the letters. They do a world of good.

I rejoice that your health still continues to improve, and hope you will not venture to remain so late in the Spring ad to turn the scale, I shall feel so thankful if you can come back from the West, well. I supposed it would be next to impossible for one to come East from Illinois after the Lake navigation closes. As you say, it seems you must remain for the winter. There is no other alternative. When the projected railroads shall be completed, this difficulty about winter travelling will be entirely obviated. I suppose. Ede, I hope you will enjoy the Winter very much, and I shall be "happy at home" unless the storms

King, or some other evil genius, intercept the letters, or delay their coming. But I suppose it would be as well not to anticipate trouble from this source, but cheerfully expect the best. I believe no letter has failed, as yet, so, judging of the future by the past, none ever will. I do not wonder that you are lonesome so very far from dear home, and dearer friends. But these winter months will pass away rapidly, and March will come almost before we think of it.

We have been having a fine snow storm, without any wind to make it drift; and this morning the rain had been falling very softly upon it. But the clouds are now parting, and the sun and blue sky peeping out between them in every direction. Moreover it is growing cold and freezing, so our snow will be furnished with a "coat of mail" that the wind cannot move. We always feel very glad of a snow without a blow.

We had a snow storm too, just before Thanksgiving, but the day had a glorious one, and the sleighing fine. A great many people were out at meeting. But it hardly seemed like Thanksgiving to us. We were alone till just about night. Then some of the young people of the neighborhood

came in unexpectedly, and spent a part of the evening. It is just about a year now, since I left home for Merrimack, to be a school girl again. I remember that term with a great deal of pleasure. It was a sunny spot in my life which it will always be happiness to review. And I am constantly finding the benefit of it, in many respects.

I think you must have enjoyed the meeting of the Sabbath Convention very much. I noticed the fact you mention, in regard to ministers, oreginally from the East, acquiring, or adopting so fully as Western style of oratory. There was one exception to this however. There was one minister who made me forget, on the Sabbath, that I was not in New-England. It was Mr. Porter, then of Lockport. He is still in Illinois, though he had left that place. Perhaps he was among the company of ministers at Jonesboro; though I believe his location is not so far South. — I suppose some of those Western preachers are very needy. When I read their statements, in the Home Missionary, of the pressing want of laborers, and funds, and, in many cases, the story of real suffering in their families, I think of an expression I once

read, "O. if I were rich, what a Big present I would make you". But it is a pleasure to make little presents to those so worthy, and a privilege too - a precious one.

Will your duties this winter occupy your time wholly, or will you have more leisure for yourself, at this season?

Here comes Jenny from school - full of fun and frolic, as she can be - I presume she will not permit me to be sober enough to write much more - She always expects a play when she comes from school, and if I am busy and "sober", as she calls it, She besieges me, till I am forced to surrender - We had a "Common School Convention" last week, at which the County Commissioner was present, and in the evening, lectured - He visited two schools in the forenoon & the day he spent in town - one of them, in this district - The meetings were very interesting, and we think will do good; especially, in leading people to think more of the importance of moral characters in selecting teachers.

Have they schools in the region where you are located?

Six long weeks at least - before I shall receive an answer to this letter - How long it takes us to talk! But your last was two days less than a fortnight - in coming from Illinois here - But I must stop - Please say in your next whether you hear from home frequently, and if all are well -

Much love from all -

Ever yours most truly

Antoinette

Antrim Me Dunbarton N.H.
Dec. 19. 23. 1851
Jonesboro Jan. 1852

Dunbarton, Dec. 19. 1851

My dear friend,-

Your letter of Nov. 30. came in due season, and though it is somewhat late to night- to think of writing, I believe I must make a beginning.- I have been wishing you were here this evening. It seemed as if I should have considerable to say to you- but perhaps if you were really here, I could scarcely utter a syllable- I am very apt to do my talking, and Washington did his laughing. {inside}

This is a lovely evening, and it succeeds a glorious day. Father went to make calls this afternoon, and as mother did not feel quite well enough to go out, I went with him. The sleighing is remarkably fine, and the blue sky to day is perfectly cloudless; so with father for company I enjoyed the ride much, and the calls also.

This evening I have been reading to father and

mother about Kossuth. Our last paper contains an abstract of Charles Sumner's speech in Congress in regard to him. We are all very much interested in whatever pertains to Kossuth, of course.

I read some railroad notices too - one of which father thinks I had better copy for you, though it may be you have known about it already. It is in relation to the "Air Line Railroad", between New York and Boston, and is as follows — "The subscription to the New York and Boston (or Air Line) Railroad, exceeded on the 12th of Dec. inst., one million of dollars, a sum required to be subscribed by that day, to prevent a forfeiture of former subscriptions, made on that condition. This, it is supposed, will ensure the construction of the road."* We were thinking the line of this road, might furnish a pleasant and healthy location. — Will the failure of the 15 million loan from England, for the Illinois Central Road, make any difference in regard to the progress and completion of the Road?

I was much interested in what your last letter tells me of the Church and preaching in Jonesboro, and of the manner in which your

*Another paragraph in the same paper says this work is done to be put under contract.

time is occupied on Sabbath, and through the week. I should like to know what you do for dinner when you spend whole days in the woods. Do you carry baskets of dinner, and spread a table among those tall forest trees? I should think you might have grand picnics in the summer season, when out in the woods for the whole day—

Sabbath evening. Perhaps you are attending an evening service now - either Baptist, Methodist — or the "good old German". Last Sabbath we were addressed by an Agent in behalf of the Jews. I have thought more than ever, within a few weeks of this most interesting class of people — because I have been reading the prophecies in the Bible respecting them. How exactly and strikingly they have been fulfilled thus far! We were told last Sabbath that there had been 20 conversions in this country to Christianity among them, in the last year. There is one thought, in reference to them, which never occurred to me before — the vast amount of which they can accomplish, when converted, towards Christianizing the world, scattered as they are among all nations, accustomed to every variety of climate, and speaking all languages.

(Dec. 23. Tuesday.) We are just having a great snow storm, and it does look rather dreary out of doors. Mother says it seems rather sad to her because she cannot go out after the very cold weather, and deep snow come she cannot walk at all on the snow, and she seldom rides in winter, except accross the Common to Church. She is about as well as usual now. She has had two or three sick days since I wrote last in consequence of over exertion. She is a very industrious body, and when she feels particularly well, is apt to go beyond her strength. Father says she never had a lazy bone, nerve, or muscle.

Brother George was very well when he wrote last. He told us how he spent Thanksgiving. He accepted an invitation to pass the day at the house of one of his school mates, and had a pleasant time, though he said he could not help thinking of home, and wishing he could be with us. How strange it would seem, as you say, not to have any Thanksgiving, or not to mind any thing about it. I should infer from a paragraph in a newspaper, that the Pennsylvanians had never observed the day till this year. I should suppose that as a general thing, in the Middle and Western States, they observe Christmas and New Years, more than the Puritan Thanksgiving.

I do not know but the letters will come all the quicker for the wintry winds and storms. at any rate, that seems to have been the effect thus far and I mean to think it will be so, till proof comes to the contrary.

Father and mother say I must always give you their love, so here it is, with mine from your ever affectionate

Antoinette

Antoinette Dunbarton N.H.
Jan. 3

Jonesboro. Feb. 6. 1852 Dunbarton, 3d Jan., 1861.

My dear friends,

Two days have passed since I welcomed your kind letter, but company and many duties have prevented me from commencing a reply till now. By time I've been rather unusually occupied this week. Sunday forenoon I was reading as usual. In the afternoon, my class was small, only three present, owing to bad walking. Father's Bible class in the study, and Sunday School. In the evening, after reading and conversing of what we read, and singing the first nine pages of the reading the History of "William the Norman" Tuesday my friend Miss Burnham came to see me, and I had long chat we loved. Wednesday afternoon, went to attend an Anti Slavery meeting. The time, every month, at which the female Anti Slavery Society are made, where Lectures and addresses of interest pertaining to Freedom, during the month just closed. I always enjoy them much. The visit of Frederick Douglass, the Fugitive Slave, upon the cause of Liberty, was a grand occasion for Abolitionists all over the land. Quite a little company came out to Father's study. For more than a year Father's study, has been the Retreat. Wednesday the 23d Jan. last day the rain came "tap, tap, tap, tap" at the windows all the day long; but as my dear

Father & mother dear, a good New Year.

and my mind were fully occupied with the daily round of household duties; and, in the afternoon and last day, with sewing, and writing a little, I thought [illegible] the year out and [illegible] - But I could not but grow sadder, as the old Year's moments grew fewer - Its sun had risen and gone down for the last time, and its pleasures and sorrows had alike departed, - its opportunities for doing or receiving good forever fled, and its records of good and evil deeds about to be sealed up for eternity - The sun fell faster as evening came on, and the dying year-angel as he gave the parting token, i.e., [illegible] golden moment, and spake his farewells in tears -

But the New year's sun shone in a cloudless sky - I went out in the forenoon to call on some sick neighbors, and in the afternoon attended "Dr. Vaux's Lecture" - A sick treat awaited me when I came home, for the mail brought three letters treasured, yours of Dec. 10, first - on the list - I read it - many times, - till father called me to read to him, from a paper just received, the farewell speech of the great Hungarian, to three thousand ladies of New York - I never read anything more truly beautiful, or more really eloquent - Thursday evening the Annual meeting of the Dumbarton Singing Society, occupied me till nearly half past ten o'clock - It was an unusually late hour, but after getting through with the matter of business, we happened to get unusually engaged in singing -

Friday, just as we had dished [illegible] to dinner, and

were ready for a quiet afternoon, we heard the sound of sleigh bells close at the door, and instantly were welcoming two ladies who had come to make a call of ceremony visit. The hours passed rapidly away, as you know time usually does in pleasant society, and I went by request to pass the evening with a good old maiden lady of about seventy years, who dwells in a small cottage, all alone. I used to pity her solitude. But I have about decided she was made to live alone. She is always trying to do good, and I never saw her sad. Her heart seems a world of sympathy for all mankind.

Two more letters have reached me today. One from brother George, containing the New Year's wish for me, expressed in the finest I know he ever penned, at least the finest we have ever seen. The other from my room-mate of Mercersburg Institute, with three and a half pages of verses, written on the morning of Jan. 1. She has a superior mind, and is a fine writer.

Six fine letters have come in this year, quite a beautiful beginning. Last year my letters written, were 64. received 60. I have accounted the book I read also. The number is 25. How glad I should be to remember all they contained. But I hope I have obtained from them at least some general ideas, which will be very valuable, and enable me better to understand what I may read hereafter. I have been reading "King Henry eighth"; and "King Richard. third." What horrid deeds they do record. I ought to write one. Good

remarked. Dear! for poor human nature! I would not have believed that Christ's teaching & the Resemblance of men could sink so low.

Now in regard to going to Illinois in the Spring - The greatest objection is the unhealthy climate, and I fear more for the effects of this, in your case than for myself - You would necessarily be subject to more exposure than I - Some you will be more guarded, and know better how to meet attacks of disease than you could know last December; and for this reason, might escape the "western fever". But what if it should be otherwise, and you should be seriously injured? One thing more - for my parents' sake, I would be as near as possible to home, although I dearly love Illinois - have New Hampshire all things considered is much the dearest place of all; and my heart tells me that with one friend I could be happy there. — Notwithstanding the objections, I am willing to go, if you decide it is best - to remain.

How glad I should be, could you be here next week, for we are to have another Pastoral Visit on the afternoon & evening of the 14th inst. Most assuredly you will be remembered then. Brother George cannot be with us. But he wishes to arrange his studies so as to leave, and be at home when you come - She had scarcely seen you at all, and feels very anxious to have the opportunity. He has not been home since he left. The distance is sixty miles, and a rather an inconvenient route.

Thursday Jan. 8 — This letter should have been sent two days ago - by Tuesday's mail, and I do not know why it was not. [illegible] of a good farm [illegible] miles distant, invited [illegible] home with him, saying [illegible] wished. I think it was for telling [illegible] this week; I could not. She ended "live in Love" quite decidedly. It stormed incessantly until 12 o'

Antoinette Dunbarton N.H.
Jan. 23

Jonesboro, Feb. 16. 1852 Home, Jan. 23, 1852.

My dear friend,—

I welcomed most heartily, this afternoon yours of Dec. 30, after its three weeks journeying. It does take somewhat longer for letters to come this winter, but they are the dearer when they do come. You say you never enjoyed the coming of letters from friends, as much as now. I am very glad to be able to contribute a "mite" to increase your happiness, now that you are a stranger and alone. I am most happy to hear so good news of your health; and that the climate and weather & the Illinois winter seem so much to your mind. But I hardly know what to reply to your inquiry as to what I would say to your remaining. As I have before written, I should fear most for your health;— and if you feel quite sure of safety in this respect, why then the great objection is removed, I love Illinois,— though the year I spent there was full of anxious care, and made me more acquainted with sickness and pain than ever before. I hardly know why, but so far as regards my own feelings, the

idea of returning thine is rather pleasant than otherwise. Though I should not feel entirely sure, that the prim-visaged Ague would not find me out, and make me tremble again. I believe I am inclined to think, with you, that the climate is not so very bad, if proper care be taken to avoid exposure. But it is sometimes very difficult to decide what one may undertake with safety.

I think I mentioned in a previous letter that a "Pastoral Visit" had been appointed. The day came and the morning was beautiful - the sky clouded, but before ten o'clock, the sun was obscured & shone no more through the day - It was exceedingly cold, the snow drifts very deep, and in some places almost impassible, and the evening, moonless - Notwithstanding all these unfavorable circumstances, about fifty persons made their way to our little cottage, and we highly enjoyed the interview - The weather has been cold, stormy and unpleasant ever since. We have about three feet of snow on a level and drifts like mountains, while it seemed you have had only about half an inch of snow in all the winter! Could we send you enough for a sleigh ride, we would gladly. We could part with it without the least

inconvenience: — Had you been here on the first day of Jan., I could have presented you with a bouquet of real flowers, from our garden. We were having somewhat of a thaw, at that time. The snow was nearly melted away from one of the beds; and outpeeped the dear little Heartsease, and the Cypress just as fresh, and bright, and green as if warming them in the Summer's sun. We gathered some of the blossoms, and kept them in water for a long time.

I have been reading to day about France — poor France! It does really seem as if the fearful scenes of the "Reign of Terror" were beginning to be re-enacted. Their President seems now to resort to the same means to aggrandize himself, that were then employed to pull down royalty. I saw, in our last paper, that 2,000 persons are imprisoned, and many are shot, tortured, and guillotined. How the despots of Europe are struggling against the rising Spirit of Liberty. It seems to be the opinion of far-seeing minds, that Europe is ere long to be the scene of bloody battles. Well, I do hope Liberty will triumph. What is your opinion of the duty of this country in regard to aiding Hungary? Father thinks we should do everything for them we can, without resorting to arms.

It seems we have two brothers attending school this

Winter - I presume both are enjoying it finely - it is such delightful work to study - George writes regularly every two weeks, though he says he is so busy he can hardly find time.

You speak of my continued anxiety for your health. I have long since ceased to be anxious about it, for the winter, because you have written how well you are; but it seems as if it would take so long for you to know it, as it does light to come to us from the fixed stars - I suppose it takes at least six weeks to write a letter, and receive an answer to it. It makes Illinois seem a great way off.

About what time will you call "early Spring"? I suppose it will come earlier in Illinois than in New Hampshire.

With much love, and best wishes, I am

Yours most truly,

Antoinette.

91 F.

Dumbarton, Feb. 3. 1852.

My dear Friend,—

This is a magnificent winter evening. If you were only here how much I should enjoy it! And I have been thinking of you till it almost seemed as if you were here. — Your kind letter of Jan. 14. came this afternoon. I was quite happily disappointed in receiving one to day. I had been trying not to expect a letter, lest it should fail to come.

It seems you have been having more snow, and cold weather, and so have we. We have had an unusual number of storms, and a great amount of snow. Every Sabbath in this year has been stormy, with one exception. I do love to have pleasant Sabbaths, but we must have clouds as well as sunshine. Last year, I noticed we had a very unusual number of beautiful Sabbath days. Perhaps the opposite may be true of this year.

I am very happy to know that you have a Presbyterian Minister at Jonesboro'—and

that you are so well pleased with Linn - It must seem more like home I think. I am glad too that he speaks so favorably of Jonesboro as a location - It seems to me it must be healthier and pleasanter than the prairies.

You ask what I would think of Illinois as a home I suppose before this reaches you, you will have received two letters telling you how I feel about it - My ideas are still the same, and my heart still replies to you, "Whither thou goest, I will go."

I would like to know, a little more definitely, how we will be situated, supposing I go back with you in the Spring; but - if you leave the very first of next month, I think there will be no time for me to get a reply to this letter, so I leave all the questions for another time. And besides, I presume your next letters will contain the information I would like - I have found this frequently the case - you would seem to anticipate what I wished to know, and tell me.

I have just been reading of the success of "Liquor Law" in Maine. I should think you would glory in your State. She seems to be the guiding star in temperance now; and her light is shining all over the Union. The

"Granite State" people had another great Temperance Convention at Concord last week, the result of which we hope will be great and good. It was very fully attended - father said he never was in the midst of such a jam before. Every nook and corner of the spacious hall in which they met, was crowded. This showed the interest of the people.

I think you must have had a very pleasant interview with your good, kind friends at Mount Hawkins. I am thinking too, that you have more "mothers", who would like to see you often now. But I do not believe they will be disposed to complain much, knowing how you have been situated.

I was quite delighted with your account of the winter forests in Illinois, and their bright-winged, musical, dwellers. How I should love to watch them, and hear them sing! Will we not be happy as they? And far happier too - for, with grateful hearts, we may together, praise "Him from whom all blessings flow".

Here sit dear mother and I, by the bright, warm fire - Mother is knitting and

singing, while I am making the pen fly. The moon and stars are peeping in at us, through the window. Now here comes father to join us — He thinks it is too late to write longer — so I must be a good girl and stop. I do not know as there will be time for me to write again — If I find there will be, after hearing from you again, I will do so —

Father & mother send much love — so does your own Antoinette.

Antoinette Sunderland Pitt
Sunderland Mass. 3.
Sunderland Mass. Feb. 21 1832

Dunbarton, Feb. 20, 1852.

My dear friend,-

Now I am just going to write a "wee bit" of a note to you, this time; for I am very much in doubt about there being time for you to receive it, before you leave to come East.

Your good letter came to night; and right-glad I was to see it. But it really makes me feel gloomy that you are obliged to wait so very long for letters, and for an answer to your inquiry about my going to Illinois. I do hope you have before now, received as many as two letters, replying to that question. This is the fourth time you have written with reference to remaining west - and no response yet -! I should think

you would be entirely discouraged.
But I see no help for the matter. Blow
stormy winds will blow, despite the
letters, - and I really think it is remark-
able that not a letter has been lost:
Your last, places the situation of
things, and your prospects for the
future, in a more pleasing light than
ever; and I am of course not less
disposed to think favorably of your
plan to remain. So be sure it - send
Jar away, and we - would both, for
many reasons, love to be in New England.
But it seems best for you to be where
you are, and I acquiesce in your
decision, and have been making
preparations accordingly.
Father is calling me to go and look
at the northern lights, so I must leave
writing a few minutes. I'll tell you

about it-when I come back— Well, I have been gazing for half an hour, at the mysterious "lights"- I believe I never saw any thing so awfully grand. Now red as Blood, now a rich golden hue, and now again of a silvery whiteness, they stream over the entire concave, glowing, and quivering, and flashing as if the whole were literally in flames. I do not wonder at the superstitious fears of the ancients- It is entertaining, fearful to view them by night- One could easily imagine the world on fire.

Now I'll tell you of an intellectual light- that has recently dawned on our little village. It- is our "Reading Circle". The young people of the neighborhood meet twice in the week, (on Monday and Friday eve) and spend about two hours in reading historical matter- Sketches of distinguished characters. We began with

doubts and fears, but the plan has succeeded beyond our most sanguine expectations. New faces greet us at every meeting and all are exceedingly interesting. We have read the "Private and Public life of Franklin" Napoleon's expedition to Egypt, the Treason of Arnold, and have commenced the story of Charlotte Corday.

I am glad you have a good horse. If you are as fond of one as Ga[illegible], it will be a very great source of pleasure to have him high spirited, playful and gentle. Father delights to have a horse which nobody but himself can manage. I used to ride horseback when in Illinois and enjoyed it highly, but I have hardly been on a horse since. I rode Father's horse a short distance, twice, last summer. So you will see I am but a novice in the art. Nevertheless "She is not yet sold but she may learn".

Well March is almost here, and unless your next letters tell me something new, I suppose I shall not write again at present. Father and mother send much love, and as much as you please from

Antoinette.

Jan. 23

Antoinette Dunbarton N.H.
Feb. 27
1852

Jonesboro March 13. Boone, Feb. 27, 1852

My dear friend,—

I have been writing all day long, for the town, copying the Report of the Superintending School Committee, of which father is Chairman,— But it is completed now, and I gladly engage in the more pleasing duty of writing to you. — Yours of Feb. 1. and Feb 7, reached me last week. Two letters in one week! How good it did seem, and how I wished it would always be so. I mailed a little letter last Saturday thinking it might be the last I should write, at present; but yours of the 7th. inst. came by the mail of the same day, and changed the prospect somewhat. I am very sorry that you are disappointed in carrying out your plans, and hope you will not be long in suspense, it is so unpleasant. I try to think circumstances will favor your coming to New-Hampshire soon. I knew that I wished to see you before; but not how much till I found there was doubt about your coming this Spring. If it cannot be, I presume it will prove, as Hannah More's "Patient Joe" said everything did, to be "all for the best", and we will take all the comfort

possible in writing letters. The great storms must be very nearly over now, and they will go quick. It seems really as if the joyous Spring had come back to us, to day - The snow has begun to leave us, and such sunny days as this will soon carry it all away. But it is very probable we may have more. March is often a windy month, though it "means the gentle name of Spring". I always love to have it come though, because I know April comes next.

I do not think your letters have been delayed so much as those going westward; at any rate you have been so kind in writing punctually, and there has been so little delay, that I have been spared the trouble almost entirely, of waiting vainly for an expected letter; and I can hardly believe that the winter I was dreading so much for this very reason, is just gone. Your last letters both came in a little less than two weeks. You have had more trouble from this source, but I hope it is over now: Brother thinks Engineers on "Central" Rail Roads, have a fine opportunity to learn patience. Well, I suppose it is all right that we have clouds as well as sunshine; and very dark clouds are sometimes beautifully tinged with sunshine, so that we can't help thinking how bright the other

side must be. Now am I not a good comforter? And I must run away and get supper now.

Supper is done, and father has gone away to the study, and mother and Lenny are sewing by the table. Last evening (Thursday) we had a meeting of the Reading Circle. Friday is the regular evening for us, but we changed this week, to accommodate the Whig party of the town, who rally their forces to night, in anticipation of the coming town meeting.

We read last evening a Sketch of Irving, and of Bryant, with some specimens of their composition. The number continues to increase, and all seem as much interested as ever, in the selections.

I do not know but I mentioned in my last, the increased interest of our weekly religious meetings. They are not very fully attended, but those who are present, manifest much more feeling than usual, and seem determined to labor individually for the salvation of souls. They seem to feel that they have a work to do.

It seems you were once almost a Methodist. Please tell me, when you have time, when it was, and where, and what prevented you from fully embracing their sentiments. There really seems to be much to admire in them, and

some things which it would be very desirable for all denominations to imitate. I read yesterday, some remarks of one of our N. H. clergymen, in reference to the religious of the inhabitants of Wellfleet, on Cape Cod. He says "they have a union of Methodist-zeal, and Orthodox faith, that tells powerfully, especially in prayer meetings! The difficulty seems to be not in carrying on these meetings but in bringing them to a close". Such meetings must be beneficial. I never attended a Quarterly Meeting. Were you able to attend the one you spoke of at Jonesboro'?

My school mate, Miss Peavey, of whom I have spoken to you I believe, is a Methodist. She united with that church about two years ago.

I have not quite given up the idea that I may see you in a week or two. I have been thinking all the while I have been writing, that perhaps you would come to night - and I should not need to send this - I do not know but I shall feel sad a little, if I cannot see you till August - But, I do not think I will "borrow any trouble" about it -

Do not fear you will write too often - I should like to see a letter every day, if it were best.

Father and mother send love -

Yours most truly
Antoinette -

P. S. 27 Dec
J. Jan 13.

Antoinette Dunbarton N.H.
March 16. 52

Jonesboro. Ill. April 1. 1852

Dunbarton, March 13, 1852

My dear friend,-

Saturday evening has come again and as usual finds me enjoying a quiet season with my mother. We have been reading and talking for some time, but now we are very still indeed. Mother is diligently studying the Book of books, while I write,- She is preparing her passage for to-morrow morning. We all commit a Scripture selection to recite at the breakfast table.

I have been taking a long walk this afternoon, to call on Mrs. French - the widow of one of the Siam missionaries - Enjoyed the interview and the walk very much indeed. The snow is rapidly going away, and the pleasant voices of the Spring are all around us. It seems so delightful to see dear little birds flying about, - and to listen to the brooks hurrying along as if to redeem the lost time. I think the fields and the trees must be looking finely in Illinois, by this time.

I remember perfectly the lively green of the

wheat fields, and a ride I took one day, to view one of unusual extent, situated about three miles from my prairie home. I remember the ride, because I was perched, with the lady of the house when I boarded, on top of an enormous load of wood, piled so high that it was quite a feat to get on or off — without a ladder. I rode in various ways in those days — but "variety is the spice of life," and I found it — so, sometimes. I went to Chicago — (32 miles), in company with a district teacher, on a load of wheat, packed in bags. We had each a bag for a seat, one to our backs, and one for a footstool, and found it mighty comfortable.

We jogged along so slowly that it was very convenient to follow the Dutch woman's fashion and knit the whole way. A right profitable mode of travelling, we thought it.

If I am at home this Spring and Summer, as it seems probable now I may be, I intend to try horseback riding again, though it is so long since I have attempted, that it will be almost like learning anew. And besides, father's horse is not a very good one for me.

It seems hard to give up the idea of seeing you this Spring. Summer seems a very great many days off. — But if time flies as usual,

it will very soon come, after all; and I should be an ungrateful child truly, to be unhappy here with the best of parents. I am inclined to think if you cannot come, and I learn the decision in season, I may enter the school room again, as I have an opportunity in town, and may be near home.

Your letter gave as much information about how we may be situated, as I expected you could give now. I supposed it would be advisible to board at first. But I am glad we agree in preferring our own home, in our own way. I think however, that at present, it must be a home "on the wing". Maybe you will not always be an Engineer, and then perhaps we can "settle down", in some snug little cottage with fruit trees, and knots of flowers, and twining vines. There! how I am talking! I'll stop here.

(Monday morn March 14th I should have finished and sent this last Saturday, but thinking I might have news from you, concluded to wait one mail longer.)

Last Sabbath was our communion season and the exercises, seemed unusually solemn and interesting. Mr. Bird - a son of the former

missionary to Syria, and himself an appointed missionary to the same region - spent the day with us, and preached. His heart seemed overflowing with love to God, and the souls of men, and it seemed as though all must be made better by listening to him. He is quite young, but seems perfectly at home as a preacher, and cannot fail to be useful, with the warmth of religious feeling and depths of piety, so manifest.

We spoke of the amount of happiness of which Christians deprive themselves here, and of glory hereafter, by not living near to God; and what a fearful thing it is to go to heaven alone - bearing no sheaves. When God has made it our duty, and our privilege to, labor to turn many to righteousness - and promised his unfailing aid. The close of his sermon was speedily impressive - representing the entrance of such of a Christian to heaven - moved us as by fire.

You ask what New Hampshire is doing for Temperance. There have been two very fully attended Conventions, at Concord, - and, since the last, Temperance meetings have been held all over the State and more lectures delivered than in two years before. This shows that the people are fully awake on the subject. Of course we hope it will not stop with mere excitement - and we do not think it can. Maine surely ought not to be alone in so noble a work.

My friend Miss Peavey, was here last week a few days, and we had a fine visit together. She wished you would come while she was here. She is very anxious indeed to see you. She does not expect to be married now, before Summer or perhaps Autumn.

I hope to hear from you very soon. I cannot help thinking of the horrid ague occasionally, now Spring had come again. But I think you will certainly let me know if you are not well. With best love, and best wishes I am

Yours ever,

Antoinette.

Dunbarton, March 27, 1852.

My dear friend,—

Father is gone to Concord this afternoon, so I am occupying his study. I am sitting in his chair, and writing on his desk, so if there should be any good in this you can readily account for it.

I do not feel quite so joyous as usual to day. It seems a very long while since I have heard from you. The last date was Feb. 22, and it is more than three weeks since it came. I presume a letter has been miscarried, or lost somewhere on the way. Really I believe I never knew the days seem so long in my life. I never longed to hear from you so much before, or to see you. It makes me think how far away you are.

Since I wrote last, we have almost had another winter. At any rate we have had some very cold days, and two or three snow storms. Wednesday morning last, the new snow was about a foot in depth, and it is so cold that it diminishes very little. But I do hope we have had the last

snow, for this has been a long and cold winter. I heard it remarked yesterday, that there have been 32 snow storms since October. That seems to be a sufficient number.

Last evening the "Reading Circle" met. We have not yet finished "Napoleon". We are reading now the Syrian Expedition. When we commenced the meetings of the circle, every body expected it would be short lived. just as every such undertaking has almost invariably proved to be, here, — but strange to say, we have not failed of a full attendance, two evenings in every week, during the whole time, and there seems an unabated interest.

I have been reading at home, "The works of Hannah More", and also "Longfellow's Poems"; and now father has purchased for us "Uncle Tom's Cabin", by H. B. Stowe. It will not take us long to complete this, for it is so interesting that when once commenced, it will be hard to leave it. — I am now reading a very valuable work, which I presume you may have seen. It illustrating christian doctrine, the difference between true and false religion, and answering the cavillers objections. It is "Pilgrims Progress

in the Nineteenth Century" - By W. R. Hicks. I hope we can get it into our L. S. Library, so that it may be extensively read in the town. I know not what would, or could be better. It makes Christian duty very plain, and clothes with attraction, themes in themselves dry & abstruse.

I do not believe I can write a very long letter this day, for there are two workmen in the other room, a mason and carpenter, fixing the chimney, fire board, &c. preparatory to the installation of a new stove - They talk so fast and so loud, and require so much attention, that I can hardly think or write at all.

It is so late now, that I begin to think it nearly certain that you cannot come East before the Summer - Of course I feel very anxious to know what the decision is. Sometimes I think it may be that no letter comes, because you are on the homeward way. I like this thought very well. - A "living epistle" would be truly welcome.

Father and mother send much love to you - Hoping to hear from you very soon, I am with my best love, truly yours

Antoinette.

Antoinette Dunbarton
March 27. 52

Jonesboro Union Co. April 13. 52

What do you suppose you it means this?
I shall be troubled if I do not hear
soon. Nothing from Annie since
you left. Samuel is gone to Clitheroe
to day about Lumber. It rains
quite fast & steadily - seems chilly
and damp - Mrs. McLaughlin is here
washing. Lucy has no girl yet - and
Mallie says she does'nt want any till
we are back from Nile - Mallie makes
bread pies & cake - She says I must
tell you that I am good at all but
carrying baby up stairs - please to
believe I have done it but twice since
you left, and then when I got tired
and went to bed before Samuel came
from - and Sabra had gone beforehand.
I expect Mallie is good without any
Exception. I see nothing to the contrary.
I am glad you went to the Crystal
Palace even for a short time - I wish you
had had you cloak to befriend you those
cold nights. Longfellow is an Excellent selection

for Mr Rowley - Bryant would have been good also - I am perfectly satisfied about it - though I had not thought to get a book quite so Expensive - If your mother thinks of any book she would like for any of the children we will send for it - I had procured those I mentioned before your letter came. Mays has not stumbled out of bed yet and I do not believe we will let him -

I like the Jam you got very much indeed. Persis is not very well - had cold & get - Had a touch of croup since you left. I suppose you are in Illinois before this Remember me to the old friends there - Mrs Keyes, the people of Mt Hawkins, Mr. Smith &c - I will send you Commercial sheets when I get home, so do not make very Jacus at this if you can refrain therefrom Lucy says be doubly careful of your health - with no wife to take care for you or of you - So do, will you not my Isaac? Mays kisses papa in the cake all these days - so does

Your own
Nettie -

Home, April 10 - 1852

Saturday evening, with all its quiet- is here again. I have been thinking a long while, and now will write a little. When I wrote last I was waiting to hear from you, and feared a letter might - have been lost - but in process of time, it has come, and was truly welcome -

It seems you were having, in March, the weather of New England May. I should like to view the prospect from your window, indeed I should enjoy viewing anything that seems Springlike - We are almost tired of waiting for the snow to be gone - Winter still holds undisputed sway, and the warm winds linger in the sunny South. Last Monday, Father stood upon a snow bank nearly six feet high, and measured a giant icicle, pendant from the eaves of the house - It was thirty one inches long, and five and one half inches round, at the largest end - Another eighteen inches long, lay on the bank - This was in the afternoon too, after it had been thawing some all day. The next day, we had a severe snow storm -

I never like you about writing letters, seems so sad for you - Every one knows it is not pleasant waiting for letters, & sometimes they seem a fever - I hope you will be more punctual in future - I would not have you write every day - not being at the counting house as I was, they come not so often - but then I began a letter & continued it from time to time, & so it grew long - Such is the way I do things!

I was exceedingly interested in what you state of your experience regarding Methodism and the Methodists. — It was in 1841, the same year you were at Brownville, that I united with the people of God, and hope I gave my heart to Christ. That was before you went to Brunswick, was it not? By the way, was not Boston your native place? We have been talking about it, and could not quite decide. Gather said he believed your father had a residence, and farm, in the country, at the same time he was employed in Boston, but he could not recollect where. You will think we have all rather treacherous memories, and so we have.

Last Thursday was our State fast. I supposed no such day is observed in Illinois. We had a meeting all day, and sermon in the afternoon. Gather's text was Matthew, 16: 3. "Can ye not discern the signs of the times"? The passage was applied to the signs of the times relating to the present day, — more especially as they are presented in the political world. He spoke at length, of the European revolutions, and the present state of affairs in that quarter of the globe; and the contest which seems to be in

prospect between "absolutism and republicanism". I suppose it will be admissible for me to say to you, that I thought it an exceedingly interesting discourse. It made me feel as if we were indeed living "in a grand and awful time", - "in an age on ages telling".

We have finished "Uncle Tom's Cabin" - and it makes slavery seem worse than ever. If there is anything in the wide world that I hate with perfect hatred, it is the very name of Slavery. I wish I could do something to help "tread it out". I hope Mrs. Stowe's book will travel through the length and breadth of the land, winning hearts and hands at every step.

I have been reading too, about the persecutions among the Protestants of Madagascar. Isn't it horrible! I could not but think, if professed Christians here were called to endure such fiery trials, how many would prove firm and faithful to the end! I do not know, but it seems to me sometimes, that a very small proportion of Christs professed followers, have that happy, trusting confidence in God, that ardent, whole-souled love to him, which makes the cheerful, self-denying, and enduring Christian, - for who [illegible] Peter, can appeal to the Searcher of

hearts and say, Lord, thou knowest all things- thou knowest that I love thee. And yet such a state of mind certainly seems desirable. What constant need there is of watchfulness, and prayer, and heart-searching. It seems no little thing to be a Christian.

Monday morn'g. The patient robins are singing merrily this morning, despite the snow. Father has gone to visit some sick people and, as usual, when I get an opportunity, I have usurped his writing desk, and its appurtenances in his absence. I must get this letter, and another one, ready for the next mail, so I do not write very slowly, as you must perceive, I think.

Father is going to-morrow morning (unless something unforeseen prevents) to attend an Association Meeting at Merrimack. I think I shall go with him, as far as Mr. N. Raymond's and stop there till his return.

George is tremendous glad that you cannot come East till Summer. What a boy! I suppose he thinks he may see you now. His vacation begins the last week in July, and continues through the month of August.

Glancing at my letter, I see it travels about all over the world - I hope you will excuse such rambling. You must know there cannot be much in little Dunbarton to write about. But I must stop now.

Father and mother send much love.

Accept very much from,

Yours ever truly,

Antoinette.

Concord, Jan. 24, 1858

Sunday Eve'g

Some time ago, as much as two hours, I should think, I sat down with pen, ink and paper in readiness, with the laudable intent to write a letter for you. I was a little wearied, and felt not exactly in a writing mood, - it seemed to me had not the most forlorn remnant of an idea, so I took up a book to read a few moments and the time has flown just as it always does when one is reading something interesting. I have been reading a description of Mammoth Cave, written by Mr. Charles Fenney, once my teacher, at Gilmanton Academy. He spent some months, last Autumn, in journeying South and West. The sense of the beautiful and the sublime is really oppressive, when reading a highly wrought description of the marvels of that subterranean world. I was obliged to sit still for a time after finishing the narrative, till I could feel quite sure that I was "in the body", and surrounded by the plain, wooden walls of my own home, instead of being in the fairy regions of that wondrous cavern

April 2 1852.

Much love from father and mother

Dear Emily Journey

I can come to see you

Is it time I stop writing

I wait for answer thinking

Not to long

Dear Emily

I suppose I cannot be

Dear Emily

I am very glad to hear

I shall be very glad

I have written a letter

I am very glad to hear

I shall be very glad

I have written a letter

I am very glad to hear

I shall be very glad

I have written a letter

walking by its river banks, traversing its halls, and chambers, its galleries and its grottoes sparkling with chrystals; while its arches echo back the "ohs and ahs of wonder", like the voices of invisible spirits — But enough of this — I must tell you how glad I was to see your letter. It came by our last mail - indeed we have had but one mail this week, because of the great freshet, and it is very doubtful about our getting another for some days yet. The cars all about us are stopped - none between Concord and Boston - None on the N. H. Central Road - In one place, on the last mentioned, about half a mile out of Coppstown Village, where a bend in the river encircles an elevation of land about 40 or 60 feet high, the bank was undermined by the river, and swept away for the distance of 15 rods - trees - railroad and all. People who have lived there for thirty years, never saw the river so high before. Last week, on the 13 and 14 inst., we had very great snow storms, and a greater weight of snow fell than at any one time during the whole winter. For five days of this week we have had rain almost incessantly, and this great body of snow is almost entirely gone, except -

Concord N.H. March 27

where there were enormous drifts.

You speak of your solitary Sabbath Afternoons - really you must feel rather alone sometimes, I should think. But my heart is thankful that one dares to be singular among that Sabbath visiting community. What a lamentable state of things when clergymen and church alike with non-professors make a gala day of the Sabbath. I am glad you have the privilege of being alone - for I used to think it would be an unspeakable one when boarding in houses where it was next to impossible to be by oneself - houses with only one room and a loft. It is unpleasant to be obliged to stay in the midst of a gay company, on the Sabbath, who spend their time in laughing, and talking of every subject, save that which should be the theme.

Last evening was the closing meeting of the "Reading Circle", and a very interesting time we had. I do not know but I wrote you that father, and our physician, who has a very thorough knowledge of history, have attended many of the meetings, and added much to their interest by discussing the various characters which were brought to view, in the course of the reading. They were both present last evening, and, as we were just closing the "Life of Alfred the Great", they helped us to trace comparisons, and dif-

-ferences between him and Napoleon.

All seemed to regret that it was the last evening; But since the evenings are to short, it deemed advisible to stop. They will probably be resumed when the long evenings come again.

I am glad your brother is so much better - What a wonder that he was not even more seriously injured or even killed! I had not heard about the accident before.

I have been out this afternoon, to spend a few hours with the wife of our physician - You would have been interested and perhaps pleased to have heard a part of the conversation at least - The questions and replies regarding the prospective of our lives - that which is as yet the unknown future.

The parsonage seems to be a sort of depository or receptacle of all the joys and sorrows of the parish. To the pastor's study they come and open a whole budget of grievances to find redress; or unfold their tale of whatever distresses or pleases them, expecting advice or sympathy as the case may demand; and seeming, in their turn, to deem all that pertains to the welfare of their pastor and his family, as their common property. This manifestation of interest in our well being it is pleasant to perceive, though sometimes we feel as if it would be quite as comfortable not to be quite so public characters. The good matrons here, some of the gray-headed ones too, seem to feel about as much interest in my affairs and prospects as if I were their child; and I feel somewhat of the same confidence in them that I do in my own dear parents. I should be so glad if you knew some of these dear, good friends, for I should love to write of them about them if you did. They are not the rich and the great, but the "quaint and quiet ones", plain and honest hearted. So you may imagine many a question is propounded to me; and many a word of advice bestowed, for which I am grateful, and of which we may perhaps sometimes reap the benefit. There are some far away friends also, who feel an equal degree of interest. They are worth to me vastly more than their weight in gold. There is one in Milan, Morgan County, Ohio, an early and tried friend of mother's who is very anxious to see you. Her letters almost uniformly contain a word of counsel for me.

Antoinette Danbarton
May 8 52

Dunbarton, May 8, 1852

dear friend—

I feel so very stupid to night, that if your good letter of April 25 had not just been received and read, I do not believe I could have written a word — I feel quite perceptably brighter since reading it—

First I must disclose to you what I have been doing the past week— After receiving yours of March 14, I resigned & had entirely the idea of seeing you before July or August—; and as mother and Jenny seemed not to require my assistance at home, and I did not like the idea of being needless, & unemployed, and had an application to take a small school near home, I decided to do so, and commenced operations last Monday

Glad I received yours of Apr. 4, in which you state that you may come East very soon, I should not of counsel have engaged this school; but it is a small one, and I can leave it with very little trouble. It closes the last week in June at any rate — only eight weeks long. Now I hope this will

I hope you will excuse this confused letter, for I have written a great deal to me and I must agree that your visit does seem desirable. Your letters are worth to me more than writing to you before I see you. Do not fail to write me soon. Yours truly, Antoinette.

I shall look for you a little this week, and shall be most happy if you come.

not trouble you. I engaged the school because I did not feel as if I ought to consult my own pleasure so much as to stay at home, unless mother needed me - doing nothing for my own support. I enjoy teaching very much indeed, and hope to be of some use to my pupils. I feel as much enthusiasm now, as I ever did in commencing school, and have enjoyed the week much. The children are unusually forward for those so young - the school room is, I think on the whole, the most comfortable and convenient one in town. I was thinking to day, I did wish you could just step in and see us - almost in the woods as we are - We are trying our best "to make the wilderness bud and blossom as the rose".

I think I never saw in one week, so great a change in the whole face of Nature as during the week just past. Two weeks ago there was a good deal of snow on the ground, and the beginning of this week was so cold as to freeze quite hard, but since Wednesday the heat has been quite oppressive, and the change wrought is truly perfectly bewildering - The fields begin to look green - the trees are covered with great buds, and the Lobelias

the Arbutus, and Garden Violets, have sprung up as if by magic - all in full bloom - looking more enchantingly beautiful than ever, after the long winter we have had.

How interesting it must be to have those European refugees in your company. I am glad you told me about them. If you come East-soon, will you not be quite likely to encounter Kossuth somewhere on the way? I hope you will - it will be quite an event to me to see someone who has seen Kossuth.

I rejoice that the cause of Temperance is advancing in Jonesboro. May rich blessings attend your efforts, and those of others, to aid the cause.

So your beautiful horse is dead - we all sympathize - and we know how - for, a short time since, Father lost a beautiful and valuable horse, which we all prized and loved. So we learned "how dear a thing without a soul can be". She had a cough, and pined away as if in consumption. She really seemed to have more affection and heart, than some human beings. Her head was laid on Father's shoulder whenever he could manage to get it there. — Father paid $115 for him, when a colt, - and he had always been a pet with us all.

Father feels miserably to night - He took cold some days since, and has had a bad cough - He thinks the prospect with regard to his preaching on the morrow is rather dubious; and beside the two sermons in prospect for the Sabbath, two funerals are to be attended on Monday. There have occurred two deaths in town to day - quite an unusual event. The bell has twice "tolled the departure of a soul". One was a lady of more than 70 years, a member of the church here, and always a consistant Christian. She had been a long time sick. The other was a young lady just 20 years old - a beautiful girl sick 12 weeks. Three weeks ago, she expressed hope in Christ - An interesting and promising young man, whose bride she was to have been, called to day to talk with Father - She had also indulged hope within a short time - Some three months - But the clock has just struck twelve times, and I must not write longer - Good night -

— Here comes Monday morning - Washing and breakfast are done and when this letter is finished I must hie away to meet my little band of scholars - Since Saturday night - the buds on the trees have become little leaves and a thunder shower last night made the grass look green -

Father succeeded in speaking miraculously, yesterday - said he had not spoken easier for six weeks. So are we blessed. - I shall wait anxiously the result of your interview with Col. Mason, and to know what you decide to do this summer - I do not exactly fancy the idea of your living in the midst of such scenes & miseries as you wrote about - but if it seems best for you, I shall be content.

Rome, May 22 - 1852

My dear friend, -

This is a beautiful Sabbath afternoon so calm and still, that it seems as if all nature were keeping the day "holy unto the Lord". We have had quite a full meeting - I have been all day. This forenoon father presented the claims of the Rome Missionary Society - speaking particularly of our duty with regard to the great field - He brought to view the great extent of our country, comparing its territory, land, rivers, &c. with the Eastern World, - its vast resources, its rapid increase from emigration. His text was "occupy till I come". Luke 19; 13. O what a charge was that which Christ committed to his followers - and how little has been done towards converting the world -

I am glad a Sabbath School has been commenced at Lonesboro. Doubtless it will be the means of accomplishing great good. I shall think of you and your Bible class as often as Sabbath morning comes. Mother was greatly interested in the descriptive part of your last letter, but she says nothing pleased her so much as to know you were engaged in instructing a class of young men in Bible truth. She hopes your efforts may be greatly blessed.

Our Sabbath School was reorganized last Sabbath. For a year past I have been a scholar, and have

enjoyed it much- very much. But I have now taken charge of a clads of misses, ten in number. It is an intenesting clads - the very one of all others which I should have selected, had I chosen for myself.

May 24th I found your good letter of May 9 - waiting for me on my return from school Saturday afternoon, and welcomed it most gladly - You speak of irregularity in the mails - I hope it will not long continue. I mailed a letter Apr. 27, and another May 11, - one or both of which you may have recieved before now. It seemd you have been having great storms as well as we. But we are having magnificent days now, and delightful scenery - I had thought - till your letter came; but - I can tele no tale which will at all compare with yours, - though I have felt - that my measure of happiness was well nigh full, when gazing on the green lawns, glittering like emerald, and the deepening foliage, and distant Blue mountains. O these mountains! "O middl - them is my home". I shall always love them. - I should delight - to see the trees you describe. How perfectly splendid that forest scenery must be; - and how glad I am that you are well, and can enjoy it; as I know you must. And then those ancient ruins. It must be intenesting to examine them, and invent to their probable origin and design. You will be likely to find intenesting relics quite often, I suppose.

I am really delighted with your descriptions &

scenery - I read them over and over again, and let my imagination at work to picture them into visible forms.

Emilie Deavey, the dear friend of my school days, of whom I have written to you, was married last Wednesday morning, at her home in Landaff, and started away just after dinner, on a three weeks visiting tour, among their mutual friends. They were here Friday evening, but I did not see them, being away at school - wasn't it almost too bad? I thought it was. But they left love, cards, and cake for me, and Emilie a kiss, and a dear little flower. So I comforted myself over the relics, and wished you were here to enjoy them with me.

They are going back by way of the beautiful lake Winnepisiogee, and the Franconia mountains.

I should love to write more, but am obliged to go away to school very early this morning, and must deny myself the pleasure this time. With my best love, truly,

A. B. P. (Archbishop)

Antoinette
May. 23. 52

Dunbarton Via
Jonesboro

Bangor

Dunbarton Me
May 25

JONESBORO ME.
JUN
10

Me. Steve S. Bluethealy
Esq
Bangor, Penobscot County
Bangor Maine

PAID
3 CTS

Blaine, June 25, 1852.

My dearest friend,

I must say dearest this time, for I am so full of sympathy that I cannot help it. What a woeful time you have had. I have just finished my school, and come home - just this moment entered the house, - but I thought I must sit down the very first thing, and begin to write a letter of condolence & congratulation too, that you are better, and able to advance. Father has been down to attend examination. He brought me your letter, and I have been reading it on the way home. I am glad your "patience and philosophy" proved so effectual in sustaining you; they are commodities of such a character as will not be

diminished By exercise, But
rather strengthened and en-
riched - I trust - yours have
been enriched by this trial
at least - "twenty dollars" worth,
so that you are made no
poorer thereby.

Perhaps you are in Sandwich
about this time - We formerly
had relatives there, and have
some now, accross the river
from them, at Putnam - You
thought you would be at Westfield
about July 1 - Then I shall be
looking for you here By the 3d.
Shall I not? How pleasant it
will be for you and your sister
to journey East in company - it is
quite fortunate that Your vacation
happens just now. I hope you
will persuade your Sister to
come here with you - Father
and mother too are anxious
to have her come - We should
all be most happy to see her, and

shall expect them. I suppose brother George will be home from Meriden just about that time. He finds it somewhat hard to study during the warm weather, and is coming a little sooner than he expected, when at home last. He seems to imagine he can study considerable at home.

We are all rejoicing that he is coming so soon. He has not been home since the first of March and then only one week.

I feel rather relieved to think my school is really through, though I have enjoyed it very much indeed - a very comfortable feeling of freedom comes over me to night.

I suppose I shall have a full and particular account of your travels when you come, and I must be patient till then. I will not write longer for I feel somewhat doubtful about your ever receiving this. How kind you have

been to write to Flora on your
way? If you do not come next
week, I suppose I may hear from
you again, - but we shall confidently
expect you

Truly as ever

Antoinette

Antoinette
June 25th 1842
Dunbarton

Dunbarton

Home, June 26 - 1852

My dear friend, -

My dear Lizzie's letter came yesterday, and after I came home at night, I sat down and wrote a reply to yours of the 18 inst., so that I might send it to Concord, to be mailed early this morning, and thus be on the way to you sooner than if mailed here. We sent another for George with it - and both were left in the street. So we are disappointed, and I fear this cannot now reach Westfield in season for you - but perhaps it may. - Your letter came by Thursday's mail (24) telling me about your being sick abed. What a doleful time you have had!

My heart has been overflowing with sympathy for you - I am very happy that you are better and able to advance. You must have felt solitary - and sadly enough - among strangers, in such a place, and suffering so much - But I am full of rejoicing that it proved no worse, and that you are really well again, or at least - getting well.

I am glad the draft made upon your "patience and philosophy" proved so effectual in sustaining you - I suppose they are commodities of such a character as not to be diminished by exercise, but rather strengthened and increased, - enriched I presume, in your case, at least to the value of "twenty dollars", so that you are really no loser, by the trial.

You are perhaps at Sandville about this time. We formerly had relatives there, and have now, accross the river from there, at Pullmans. — You thought you would be at Westfield by July 1st. Shall we not be looking for you by the 3d? You and your sister will enjoy the journey together very much. How fortunate that her vacation happens just now. I hope she will come here with you. Will you not persuade her to do so? I should dearly love to see her, and father & mother are very anxious that she should come. Shall we not expect her with you, by the last of next week? — George will probably be at home about that time.

He is coming somewhat sooner than he expected, to stay last at home - because he finds it rather hard to study in the warm days - He is going to bring home his books - He seems to imagine he can study considerable at home. We are all very glad to have him come so soon - he has not been home since March, and then, but - for one little week.

It seems strange to have no school to think of, or dream about - I feel quite relieved that it is through - though I have enjoyed it very much indeed, and felt sorry to part from the bright eyes, happy faces and merry voices of the dear children. No one of them was more than thirteen years old - but - all were fine scholars for those so young - I think I never found better ones.

You have been very kind to write so often on your way - If you cannot come next week I suppose I may hear from you again; but - we shall confidently expect you by Saturday - I suppose I shall have a full account of your travels when you come - so I must be very patient till then - I will not write longer to night -

Truly as ever, yours

Antoinette -

{Saturday Eve.}

Bangor June 13 54
St Louis July 1 54

Tuesday night June 13. 1854
(Bangor)

My dearest Isaac,

Your letter written at Virginia Hotel St Louis, June 6 - reached here yesterday having been just one week on the way - came with a speed did it not? Dont I wish they would all come so. O how good it is to see your hand writing when letters come I am very glad you felt so finely - so little fatigued on reaching St Louis - I do not wonder you felt sleepy on the Sabbath after your night journeyings. By this time you are absorbed again in R.R. matters - I hope to know soon where your stopping place is to be - Office &c - Our long anticipated journey East all past - can it be? And you away so far from me & our little boys, busy as can be - Dont get too much absorbed - Mr. Shepherd said in his sermon last Sabbath - "God says, 'Let Every thing that hath breath praise the Lord' - Mammon says, 'Let every thing that hath Muscle - dig'" Said people gave themselves no time comfortably to sleep or healthfully to eat. He was a plain, pointed sermon to Business Men - a most Excellent one - Lucy and I went together in afternoon - Mr Post was in Boston when you were at St Louis was he not? - There has been a

pander. I had to help about getting baby to sleep - for some reason he cried and was some time getting quiet. He has been full to overflowing to day of fun & roguery. He shakes hands vigorously with any of us - stands up all alone in the middle of the floor, walks quite across the entry with one hand holding to my dress - and it seems to me grows heavy constantly. How you would love to water him. Dear - but - I'll not say a word about the "long time" I'll try to keep you informed of all Cary's wonderful deeds, and will both keep as well and happy as possible. The little fellow is just asleep now - he is a darling baby. Percie is well now and we are going to Milo. Lucy and I, with the Babies & Sabra, tomorrow morning nothing preventing - Samuel is going also - we have been waiting some time for him to go. He has been to Frankfort to day. Sabra does well. Mr Shepherd has been in this evening to call. What a bashful man he is - it was a hard for him to say anything. Either Samuel or Eliab were here to see him. He is a good man, and I love to hear him preach. Lucy and Marie made a pair of shirts for him, and he thanked them to night for the same. I have not heard one word from Dunbarton yet. What can it mean - May be father & mother have gone a journey. Anna writes that she will start about 26 June get here about 1st July - spend "the Fourth" in

Boston. Lucy thinks I had better stay for her, and I should dearly love to; but I fear father and mother will feel it. I can tell better what to do after hearing from them. Hattie has got nicely over the measles and Lizzie has them now, but is recovering.

I like Mattie. I think Lucy is ever so much like my Isaac. She reminds me of you many times. Eliab too I should imagine to be your own brother. I am getting more acquainted with the children. I am happy with our dear friends here. It is so pleasant to feel that I am cared for by those so dear to you. So very pleasant to love them and think the love returned. Eliab keeps asking me which baby I love best, & wh. I think handsomest. I got Rollo's book & play, bound in one {.62c} to carry to Charlie. We all read "Parish Side" and have exchanged it for "Father Brighthopes" which is a very good little volume. Lucy wants Albina to have it immediately. She finished it today. — I must stop and go to bed, I suppose. All the rest have gone. I miss you [illegible] most all the time. But I think, with you, it is better not to fret. We are all in a kind Father's hands, who is able to keep us and grant us all we need and permit us again in due time to meet. Please do. — Hurry and work too hard with you.

Most truly your own

Nettie P.—

Bangor June 2 54
Dr Coin July 6 "

Bangor, Tuesday, June 20, 1854

Dear Ike Isaac,—

It is past tea time — Samuel & Elias have both been here to eat — and Samuel had gone back but because it is a rainy night — and not much doing at the store Elias stays to spend an Evening with his Nellie, and here sit they, close by the Secretary where I am writing Elias is reading the "Lamplighter" and putting an arm about Nellie while she is at work — I have just undressed 'Cony' and Sabra is getting him to sleep — He has been stretching him on the floor, just as he used to do when he wants to rest. He and Percie both have felt badly all day — tired out with the ride from Milo yesterday and having troublous times with musquito bites there obtained — & how thick the creatures were — I never saw so many before — Mother says she makes a regular business of destroying them. Samuel amused us greatly with his zeal to kill them — He made a big smoke daily, and at night — with a lighted candle pursued them from room to room and let the flames devour them — after all they did trouble us some at night — and early in the morning.

Samuel has been to Oldtown to day. It has been very warm yesterday and to day but is cooler to night since the rain. Lucy is getting Percie to sleep and E. & Maria have gone to their room & Labra has taken sleeping little Mays up to bed, so here I sit alone now & how should I love to see you to night. Lucy engaged a new girl while we were gone to Milo. Mary Hamlet from Brownville. The stage brought her to day. Lucy heard afterwards that she was light fingered, and she quits as if she should not keep her long. Still she is bright & active & may improve and be a good girl. Elias is good as can be about most things but he will be naughty some. I told him I should tell you he asked me naughty questions! such as this How do you like Isaac? Then he'll get close up to Mallie and kiss her and ask me if you do so, and if I like to have you, and he makes my cheeks burn about every day. What would you do to him! Dear Isaac I am glad you & I have so good brothers and sisters. I do love them all. and am greatly enjoying this visit. Katy has this day gone home. Lucy thought she could get along with the new girl better without her. Labra has been not very well to day, but seems better to night. Thinks she will be quite well

tomorrow. — I think Ile not write any more till morning, then Ile give you a wee bit journal of the week past:

{Journal} Wednesday June 14— Went to Milo. Samuel got a large carriage and Lucy & himself & baby & Alf & baby rode therein. Sat ra went in the stage & walked from the corner with a note of introduction, and told the people we were coming. We stopped to dinner at Bradford. What a miserable hotel! Lucy says it grows worse & worse every time she stops there. Had pleasant ride—not very warm—got there a sort five—started at nine in morning. Ille glad to see us. I do not see as mother growed old. Alvina looks nicely. Charlie & Josie a few inches higher up. What a decided character little Mary is. Mother says when she takes Mayo and looks in his face. I can hardly believe it is Isaac's baby.

Thursday June 15— Went to Brownville—delightful ride by Pleasant River—called at Mr. Sewall's a few moments—reached Brownville about noon—found all well. Mayo was full of frolic as could be. Mr Rider seemed to enjoy playing with him and laughing at him very much. He played so long after undressing that he felt cold after it. I expect for he cried very hard a little while. He took four or five steps all alone to day. Mother said he would soon go alone, and that she had no expectation of seeing—physically—in little Mayo so strong and healthy a child. She thought he would be funny.

Friday—June 16— Went back to Milo in the P. M. Almeda wanted us to stay till strawberry time—but Lucy said about

all our visit was at Milo before and she thought we had better go back to Bangor with her & Samuel - you know when in Bangor before I spent most of my time at the dentists - We called a Col. Lord on way back - He was sorry not to have seen you - said he should have thought you might have come in just to the door and spoken to them -

Saturday June 17 - All day at Milo - Samuel & Lucy and mother went to the village to make calls & took tea at Albina's father's - I read to Josie some in the little book I carried him - I carried "Life of Bangor" to Albina.

Sabbath June 18 - Mother Lucy & Percie with little Mary & Sally's baby, Sally & baby remained at home - rest went to church - and heard a Mr. Smith preach annihilation to the wicked - None of them enjoyed the preaching - Meal - None were all ready enough for the babies

Monday June 19 - Came back to Bangor - Sabre and all in the carriage - We stopped at noon at a hotel house where they sometimes put up people and had a most excellent dinner - all clean & neat too - Some tired at night - Samuel and I - picked some cherries - Leaves to bring home to Mallie - A letter from you - came this night - written at Dunbarton - mailed Mt Vernon - also a letter from Dunbarton the first - received since we were there - Father and mother had been to a Missionaries Convention at Concord and were detained in that way from writing - the letter, beside, was not put in the box so I did not get it as soon as otherwise - They were all well as usual - George at Pembroke - Father is trying to get a school for him next winter - I do wish he could do something besides keep school - They seem anxious to see me and get willing I should do as is thought best - I hardly know whether it is best for me to wait for Annie - I can not - Were she home before last week in July - I know it would be over so much pleasanter to go with her - but will seem a long waiting to father & mother - Tuesday - Do - Reading "Lamplighter" - Rainy part of the day - Two books of Fowler - I wont come soon if ever to day - What made you think to send them? I am glad you did however -

Dunbarton N.H.
Sept. 1 - 5 - 1854
~ 16. 1854

Dunbarton, Sept 1, 1854 -

My dearest Isaac, -

Last Tuesday my usual letter came not, but last night (Thursday) came one mailed Aug 22 at Mount Hawkins also one mailed the 26 inst at St Louis and the pictures - I opened the case and dear Isaac looked at me from under neath a broad overhadowing hat brim, just like himself, only a little browner although perhaps really so, perhaps only seeming from the contrast with the light coat and hat - Then the additional hairs on the upper lip made it look at first a little older and fiercer perhaps, but - I like it more & more - have about concluded it is a grand good picture - I had an idea you would shave, or rather not shave to visit yourself this summer, while away from us all - Now I should not admire a heavy mustache on any body else, and like your face just as well without it, but - am amazing glad you concluded to make an exhibition of the present condition of your countenance. Now I know how you are looking now - I have looked at that face so long & right that it seems to stand out from the plate a living form and so strange that it speaks not nor moved - O how it makes me long to see your very self - I am very glad you sent it - it seems to me I can realize better that you are really there living & acting, and I can see you again sometime. Dear little Mary went to sleep to night with it in both hands - had kissed it the last thing before the tiny eyelids

closed - If you could only hear him say prayers - it would do
you good - The little fellow has cared for himself much of the
time this week - has been a very good boy to day. I do not
take him to the table at all, but feed him from the table while
we eat - always give him his dish of bread & milk before
we sit down - then he plays about and makes no trouble
for any of us, till we are done through. Mother says she never saw
a better boy at meal time - He has a passion for Dragoons, old
books - wants every one he sees - I have been making a
rack on purpose for him - I took an old superannuated frame
and pasted pictures in it - and he likes it much -

The day I wrote to you last - I mailed a letter to Miss Lincoln
in answer to the one telling me of the coming of a little stranger
among them - I am glad mother is there - Sorry they all
feel so badly about Charles' remaining - do not wonder poor
Albina feels it - Don't let him stay a great while longer than you
I am glad Col. Hodson is coming in Sept., and shall be anxious
to know what he says about your coming East: Can not
you and Charles come together? I want to see Charles
very much - He seems so near to me because he was
with us so much in Du Quoin - Give love to him for me -
I think I shall write to Albina next week, and try as
much as I can to comfort her - She will know I can sympathize - I have been reading out loud to this people this
Eve - from the Independent - I do like * very much, as well as
ever - The first best perhaps - his style is so simple, so
buoyant - and enthusiastic - I always look for his dignitaries
first after a glance at the news - — But I must shut up
this picture - it has been looking at me all the while and go to
rest - I do think it is an Excellent likeness. Good night -
says your loving Nettie —

Thursday Afternoon — Dinner just over and I have concluded to finish this and mail it this afternoon with a Daguerreotype. I went to Concord yesterday with Father and had a fine ride to get it — All who have seen it think it good and I hope you will like it though it does not seem to me very good — The artist, Mr Kimball of Concord, thought it the best he could do. Mother is resting and Father also and Jenny busy about dinner dishes &c Hagar is here with me in the sitting room and I cannot write very well for Others sometimes do — She is all the while catching my finger or my pen or bringing some thing for me to see — little rogue — She is sometimes pettish too, but on the whole I believe she was a very good boy with mother yesterday while we were gone — I am afraid I shall not get a letter to day — but if I get two Thursday as last week it will pay all — and then I had the picture beside you know — Wasn't I glad? Mother is writing a little to you — She takes a deal of comfort with little Hagar — We had rain last Friday and Saturday, gentle and quiet at first — Saturday night it rained very powerfully indeed — seemed to be pailfuls rather than drops — The grass looks finely green since — the potatoes probably so much refreshed by plentiful drinking, that they will grow a little more — Father dug nine hills to day for about enough to last two days — very good, but small — We are to have company from Concord tomorrow — Mr. & Mrs. Smart & daughter — Had letter from George last Saturday — well — has a flourishing writing school and has charge of a reading class — seems happy — Others have been

a great many fires all about us - mostly in the forests - four or five buildings burned in Concord, one last week before last - and last week all the business part of Dunbarton (near Concord) was burned - Everybody and everything was glad to see the heavens opened, and rain descending - I wonder if you have had any -?

I have "Sunny Memories" - we are going to have it read aloud - I have been reading Madam Roland Ive got Scott's Harper yesterday - How much H. W. B. I mean * tells of his Lenox possessions - and very interesting tales they are I think. August is all gone is it not - and Autumn is here - We can hardly wish time to hasten even though we are away from each other - and you away from darling Mayo Little Percie is a good deal better now - I tried to have Lotta help all she could but it was a problem I wished very much I could solve whether or not she was a help or a trouble to the good people there - This was all the troubles I had - While there - I feared we were all making work for dear Lucy and Nellie - I could not help enjoying myself though after all - We all had some very pleasant - hours & days together, but I could not bear to think of being a burden - myself, baby, or girl - I should not have remained so long, had they not seemed to desire it - It did not rain but a little days, either, to me - Thermometer up to 84° to day {2½ o'clock} little wind and rather uncomfortable.

Last Sabbath was communion here - Full house - Father preached - John Parker up and at church with Miss Stimson - He is building a fine house for his bride - Mrs Raymond & her aunt here Sabbath day - She is not well - looks shadow like.

I must stop or not write this to day —

Your loving Nettie —

Dunbarton, Nov. 12-14 33
Due origin Dec. 2d

Dunbarton, Sabbath, Nov. 12, 1854

My own dearest Isaac

Here have I been sitting for sometime
with dear little Mayo in my lap thinking about his dear
& very dear Father - How the little boy is playing with kitty
running all about the floor, and trying to talk; so I take
the time to write while he does not need me - I have been
at meeting all day - mother went last Sabbath - We had not
a very full house for it has rained very steadily all day
long - moistening the glad earth and replenishing the exhausted
springs - Last Tuesday came your long letter telling me about the
said accident - The next morning with my bonnet on
ready for a ride to Concord, I scribbled a note to you to take
with me and mail at C. Yesterday came yours of Nov 7
mailed at St Louis, and a good one from sister Mellen -
They are enjoying house keeping much - Do the her sisters
probably be with them this winter - She said my Isaac wrote
her "some beautiful lines in a letter to Elias" - She says, "how
I do like Isaac" - Mellen is a dear, kind sister and an
excellent wife, I think - and dear little Percie is getting
fat and healthy again - Isn't it good? Can all that
exposure and labor & loss of sleep has not made you
sick! I do think it is wonderful - How can I help adoring
"thy cup runneth over" When I think of that accident
& end of your safely - It makes me feel as though you
surely would be kept; - and you shall meet again
in heavenly & happy Together - Is Mitchell getting
well? How good that he was so little injured -

I do not thank I had better put in cloak now - Mayo wishes you knew what language
to use like mine - Father dear - that will answer every purpose.
Almost 4 o'clock - mother gone - Mayo & I alone - I do not
know when I have a more
Eve. 6 o'clock - mother
Mayo & I alone
Mayo is in bed - I do thank
that I have a right
to be

I am glad too it happened by no carelessness of any of your own - The case seemed to be one they had no power to control - It seems that the Indian people were not long without a preacher - I am glad they have one that and has somewhat of his own to live on - it is fortunate. "A good something". Will he begin immediately preaching at the station? I have just finished Acts 26 & 27 in the Greek Testament - have read two some in Independent if Nov 7 to mother - How quick your last letter came - mailed Nov 7, and here Nov 11 - I never received one quite so soon before. I wonder if you would not get mine sooner if I sent them via St Louis? George is at home now, but will not be long I suppose - I love to have him here - Jenny will be home a week at Thanksgiving - will come the Saturday before - I shall want my dear Isaac then How can I enjoy it without you - But he will and then I'll have my real Thanksgiving when you come! — I have just now had a little boy to bed; I have been thinking for some days that it would be better to put him in bed and leave him to go to sleep by himself, so last night I began so doing - I should think he cried more than half an hour very hard - It made me almost relent but I did not go to him, and he went to sleep by himself at last - To night - I did the same - He cried a short one minute as if his heart was broken - When he found I had left him again - then a few mournful ma, ma, mas and a long drawn sigh and he resigned himself to sleep - I stood at the door and watched him - I do not think he will cry at all next time.

Monday afternoon 2 It has just stopped raining but is cloudy still - This is the third day it has rained. Father is having some fruit trees set out and Mary is

watching the men at work and enjoying it wonderfully.
He did not go to Pembroke last Wednesday - only to Concord - the weather grew so cold before we were at Concord that Father dared not go further so he came directly home - but I stayed to do some shopping and to hear Rev. J. C. Fletcher, lecture in the evening before the Young men's "Christian Association" - Subj: of the Lecture "Our Country" - Mr Fletcher has resided in Europe some years - is a fine speaker.
I got a velvet bonnet - and paid therefor $8.00 -
That is enough isn't it for one bonnet - My conscience almost smites me - It makes $13.00 dollars just for bonnets this year - besides my travelling one - I do not think I have been very saving this season - but I have not intended to be wasteful! I enjoyed the ride to Concord much - Grand old Kearsarge loomed only four or five miles away, at most - heavy with snow, and the sun shining full upon it - I never saw it to so fine advantage before - just so with the whole range of hills about us - I would have gone twice the distance to behold such a scene - Since the rain the grass has grown green as in Spring almost - George came home Thursday from Pembroke - I came from Concord the same day with the mail carrier in an old rickety wagon, a horse who very evidently had oats and the most eccentric driver you ever saw - bright strong to, & strictly honest & upright - He wielded the limb of a tree for a whip! I got home safely by three in the P. M. & little Kays was glad enough

to see me - It is the first night I have been away from him since you left. He was as good a boy mother reported but could see better. It was not him this mother is here! Mr. Amos Hadley - one who heard you remember, waited upon us to the Evening lecture - I spent the night at Esq. Kimball's and old friend of mother's - dined Thursday, as I did Wednesday with Mrs. Smart - I imagine you have heard me speak of her - I used to board with her mother & attended school in Concord.

Last Friday - I baked some in D. H., and after we dined, & Mayo had his nap George took him and me & we called at Capt. Stinson's a while. Wilson's and at Harris Rider's - Mayo was good at the two first - places, but at Mrs Rider's for some reason he acted like a little fury - cried and stamped & kicked and shook his head and exhibited clearly that he had a will of his own - spoilt our call entirely - shall have to go again I reckon and leave him at home.

Harris' little boy has been very sick with scarlet fever - He and his mother went to Salem to visit, and he was taken sick there - She only came home a week since - The little boy looks very pale yet. Dr. Mason on the side of the two days & almost - Every letter speaks of your meeting him somewhere - You say Big Sunday Bridge is done - is Little Sunday too? I do not care a fig - how soon it - is all done - But - I shall not look for you till Jan - last - I be disappointed. I wonder what Mistress Keyes thinks of going to the Station to live? I Expect I ought to send my love to her - Won't - you give some to her next time you call. You know she really was very kind indeed to me when I was sick in June - How much she did for little Mayo - and I cannot help remembering it. I don't think the woman is as good as she might be, and who is? "Give every one his due and who would escape whipping"? George goes tomorrow to the Exposition Institute - Mr. Pierce two days - I hope to go down some time -

Let's have a Picnic in the Grove, & a Dance in the Evening, & a Ride in the Carriage, & a Walk in the Garden, & a Flower, & a Kiss, & a Present, & a Ring, & a Wife, & a Home, & a Heaven.

Bangor

June 9, 1855 At Lucy's Friday morning
June 9. 1855 –

My dearest Isaac,

Here we are. Mary & Sally in the front chamber at Lucy's sitting close by the window. It rained yesterday all the P.M. and all last night and is cloudy this morning, but I imagine will be pleasant by noon. Lucy has been making cake and I have been reading aloud to her from a Library book. "Modern Agitators". I have read Sketches of James Russel Lowell, Fred. Douglass N.P. Rogers, &c. Mary is close at my side playing with my combs & brush. She seems happy as need be here much more so than at the other house. Lucy and I went down town yesterday about ten o'clock and home about one, leaving the two little folks with Lizzie & Ellen. They were just as good as could be. Both asleep when we came home Lizzie had given them dinner at twelve and got them both asleep herself. She is first best for taking care of children – devises all manner of ways & means to please them. Lucy says she feels perfectly safe to leave P.P. with her much more than with Ellen. Lucy & I devoted the city for pretty shawls yesterday, & met found among a new lot just received at "Hatch and

Thompson's" was almost precisely alike that entitled us. only the price was more than either of us wanted to give - $6.00. They were very willing to take the "yallar" one back again - so I sent it & paid the difference and have a shawl I like - and humbly and sincerely hope & trust you will like too. - I went to bed & to sleep after you left Wednesday morning - had a nice nap - We had not breakfast till after seven because nobody was up to eat. Sammy Ely was rather full - You know Elsie waked him just before you started - that disturbed his slumbers so greatly that he overslept & felt sadly about being so late at the store - After breakfast I nightly vacations up stairs preparatory to absenting - The Porter cart took the trunks before him and shortly after Mayo and his mother trudged up here leaving Mallie somewhat long-visaged - promised to be her every pleasant day - You know I hoped to go to Maternal Meeting in P. M., but could not arrange to leave Mary, because Lizzie had the promise of going and I knew he would not be contented with Ellen - so I stayed with him - Lucy, Mallie and Lizzie went - Had a funny time, as well as good, from Lucy's description. Mary and Mallie went down town before meeting and to Mr. Wells for Tomato plants after meeting - did not get home till just six - Isn't it wonderful that Lucy can endure so much? She had headache yesterday morning quite severely, but going down town

cured it entirely! Mary cries Every night a little on going to bed - but guesses he will get over it. Lucy says she forgot when you were up Sunday that you were going away for so long and her lips ached because she did not kiss you. I had a fine sleep yesterday after dinner - so I did Wednesday - Was not that a good girl - Mrs Harlow was in last Evening told of a colored man in the city - just escaped from bondage - Mrs. Shepard had been up to talk about him and as if some families would not volunteer to board him - so save his hotel bills - He is trying to get money to buy his family out of slavery. He will spend some days at Mr Harlows, and perhaps here also. Lizzie goes down Every night to sleep with Maria - You left the little Lunatic after all. How do you without it? I wonder when I shall get a letter I am almost impatient now - I did not ask you when you should write - Knew you would write as soon as you could - It seems strange enough to be without you - I can hardly set myself about anything yet - The Tomato plants came last night and Samuel set them out in all the rain. Mr. Wells had lost all his buttons.

Lucy sends her Extraordinary affection and distinct love, and wants you to take care of yourself and not get sick -

I am going down to see Maria a little while - so I must hasten - I have not only made the letters and have not time to

look over this or the note to Emma - do also be kind enough to forget the mistakes, and books and remember it comes right from the heart of.

Your Sister -

I have written in the big book Every day! Mary said very sorrowfully this morning - "Fever done away - Mary can't see him" He has asked a good many times to go up stairs and find you. When we came up Wednesday he said he was coming to see Jessie and Jinnie Father. Sometimes he says "Fever done down 'tect" and sometimes goes "to 'cago" (Chicago). I am going to carry Mattie some Pepper Grass and we are going to have some for dinner - "By By"

Sister -

Antoinette Bangor June 14 1855

Bangor, Maine
Thursday morn June 14. 1855.

Dear Lucy,

I got home Tuesday, time to see my
children, who were the most delighted every day since
I left, & wanted to ride with me. The very first
thing, after saying prayers was to count the eggs &
see if any were broken. I replied that I would
pay for them, & then they were satisfied. Then
came the inquiries, how many I would take, & how
many I would leave. Then they must see what I
had brought them. Then they must have
some bread & butter. Then I must see the bird's nest
which Willie found in the lilac bush. Then
I must see the flowers in the garden. Then I must
see Mary Ann. Then I must see Mrs Hamlin. Then
I must see Mrs Hayes. Then I must see Mrs Hamlin
again. Then I must see Mrs Hamlin. Then I must
see Mrs Hamlin. Then I must see Mrs Hamlin.
Then I must

[illegible] disappointment.
Sunday was pleasant all the [illegible] Mr. Cleveland was
[illegible] Mayor. Think Eyebrights is thriving.
I walked to Charles in Mr. Hayes the [illegible]
walked back. Then made a good [illegible] dressed.
Everything dismal in nearly every [illegible]
Yesterday Lucy and I went out and walked a long [illegible]
and enjoyed it much. Then Elias came [illegible] and I went
down with him to Mallie's I went [illegible]
dinner Marie came up there and spent [illegible]
and we had a fine time. Eat [illegible] Sister Hannah
I believe a two quarter carney [illegible] two rounds to
to Miles. He concluded it would be about time
as to go by stage and he must [illegible] time
we should have the carney [illegible] to Belvidere with
E. Mills & the game two nights & Sunday, and we
shall spend the [illegible] long [illegible]
Samuel will go up to come [illegible] with Lucy
I am writing very hurried [illegible]
[illegible] to be studying, and I ought to be saving
for Mayor as soon as I can. Lizzie got a singing
school two afternoons in the week, She wants me
must to go [illegible] with me, but I must stay with
Ellen & Samuel & keep [illegible], and [illegible]
the room [illegible] with them. [illegible]
& I cannot [illegible] carry out my [illegible]
all the way without [illegible] Friday. I [illegible]
to join Stage all the while, but it would [illegible]
Lucy & I waited it [illegible] about the [illegible]

Stage - How I should enjoy travelling with you this pleasant weather - I should like to be in Du Quoin when you come there - My love to Mary. Will if you can - Time - I do not believe you will be home in a month - will you? it may not & will not think you will -

We think some of going down to Vicksburg before we stop - go the first pleasant day next week - I imagine though, we shall stay the first night at Shilo. I have written so often since you left that there seems to be nothing else worth writing - but I thought I would write for you might not hear anything till you get to Du Quoin - Time is doing nothing - The children both troubled with - Bill and P.P. have some little trouble in company - but with a little watching they do pretty well. My great trouble is I cannot find time to do! I thought I would tell you, since you might be able to contrive some plan for my relief! Joint the Family Robinson fancy - such imperturbabilities and fortunate occurrences were very remarkable - first the book for a boy - "Mary Mary" "Gates" - "Grass" - "Seed" "Can't see him".

Lucy sends you much love - [illegible] remembrances -

Lovingly, your own

Mrs

Antoinette

Bangor June 16 1853

Saturday Eve June 16, 1894

My dearest Isaac,

I can scarcely realize that I have you to myself if you could just drop in and spend the Sabbath with me, & church! I wonder where you are now? A nice letter came to day mailed the 11th inst (last Monday) dated 'Good Intent Hotel' Boston. What a union name for a Ladies House. How good you are, as usual, about writing. It is such a comfort. I am very glad you are enjoying your journey so much as you seem to do. Can't help feeling glad to that you think of the boys you left behind, and sometimes wish they could be with you on beautiful flowers and grand mountains. How I should delight to be with you, if my place were not here. But I am content to be here. Lucy and I are sitting by ourselves in the sitting room, or rather she is on the lounge resting. Summit gone to ~~rehearsal~~ Mr. Little's to a little dancing. This morning I rode down town with Maria almost entirely for the ride. I got some sugar plums & peppermints to carry to the children as a treat. Lucy, Maria & I intend going to ride in a cab to Mother's. So she will be nicely entertained. I have been packing trunks this P.M. besides taking care of Mayo, washing & ironing his sacks and various items of preparation. Lucy sent

to singing school this P.M. for two weeks.
She does not relish the idea of going to the
wants to go to. But Ellen says she should not be
willing to stay without Lizzie. and indeed I know
I cannot be away for that length of time. Except by stage &
that is tiresome work. Silas, Lucy thinks she
shall stay only a week - Marion three or four.
I shall stop at Mills - and I guess Marion will
make first visit there. It has been a fine
day, today but is raining hard now - only a
shower, I imagine, however. How much rain
we have had of late. All gardens, & fields
(I walked down to Marion just before it began
and had to stay till Samuel came to dinner.
But the P.M. was pleasant.

Thursday, Samuel went to Hampden on
business and Lucy & P.P. went for the ride from
till six o'clock. & Miss Goffrau - Lizzie Goffrau
of Dover and her father & aunt - that night
here. I believe they said you boarded there
once - at any rate Samuel did. Very pleasant
sort of people. - It is two o'clock and Samuel
not home yet. I believe I am tired - not sleepy
enough to go to bed. - good night - dear Grace -

Monday 18 June - Four P.M. Here we are in mother's
room at Mills - Lucy and P.P. Marion, Elias & Gertie
Albion & Mary, Mother dear, Self & Mayo - quite
a room full. There is a girl out in the kitchen - came
Saturday - name is Gertie - I hope she will prove a

good girl. Charles is out making a salty fence on North side of the road by the cedar swamp. The little Charlie & Josie at school. We started a little before 8 eights this morning - got here at 12 noon. Came in by to enjoy it. Had two grey horsed and a nice lady carriage. Mollie have two carpet bags & a valise & co. [illegible] carpet bag, me a carpet bag - Alleys brought the trunks and I guess Charles will get them to night they are at the corner. Had a nice visit & do not any of us feel much tired, not even Lucy. All the trouble was Lucy & I wanted Samuel & Jonas - It seems such a half way sort of business to have the biggest half of yourself gone, when one has something to enjoy. Mays seems quite at home already - I just went out for him & found him carrying Kitty out of doors - He said "turn kitty - turn out doors, turn out doors - oh yeth". Kitty couldn't resist it - The other day he came and kissed me ever so many times {believing} and then said "there, dat all, I beeve dat all". and ran away - He talks about "dear father" every day - There are some mischiefs here - I am afraid the children will get scarred fears.

Yesterday Lucy went to meeting in A.M. and Mr. Fields preached again - I seem partial not to hear him I went in P.M. & heard Prof. Thayer not quite so interesting as usual - Text "God loveth a cheerful giver" - It is a lovely day today - we could not have had a better - Jonas and comfortables - All are well here Mother - looks finely - She has just finished reading

your last letter. Have not heard anything since you left till we came. Except by Elias who wrote a week ago Friday.

Elias will go to Brownville tomorrow - Mallie Lucy and mother with him and I guess they will all return with him Wednesday - Then Mallie & mother & I will go up again - by R. R. Boy. Mallie will be making her first visit here and still to go with Elias, Mallie say it looks nicely here - She likes the grove, hogs joggle, me vigorous, now & then - I do hope Charlie will bring home a letter from you to night - We have just come home with his shirts not enough with perspiration to be wrung - guess he has worked too hard - I must hasten - We feast on cream & milk already Do come & help speedily -

With much love, from yours

Mother

Letter from Dunbar on Saturday - all well - George coming to Hiteman, Alvis will K. S. goes to College 1st Sept.

Brownville
July 15, 1855

Brownville Wednesday July 18, 1855

My own dear husband Isaac) —

This morning came two dear letters from your very dear self one of July 2- the other July 4- from La Crosse & Du Bugue - O so good! how they made my heart leap for joy - But it makes me sad to think how few letters will reach you from me - It has been a most self denial not to write every time I had news from you - Only wrote twice to Du Buque thinking it not possible you could get any more - Then I wrote once directing to Chicago thinking you would be off there as you came north - That I suppose you will not get - Last Thursday, July 12, came yours mailed at Centralia, requesting me to write to St Paul - It was a whole week later in reaching me than you supposed it would be, so I wrote very hurriedly to send back

to the village, and go out by the next mail - a pen
full & scrawl of a letter written in all the hurry
and bustle of a house full of company, little Mayo
pulling my sleeve, and all sorts of annoyances
I fear it was hardly worth the sending - I thought
all the while too that you would not get it - now
I think you will get it and that I might have
written another by the next mail - but it is
too late now to write again to St Paul - only
four days and one a Sabbath, to send in from
Brownsville - So I will send this to Elyria I suppose
that sounds like you would be homeward
bound ere long - What will Mayo say when
you come? He will know who you are this
time. He is a perfect comfort - to me when you
are away - He comes and says "Mayo wa. Mayo
sunny bonnet on" - Then he runs out and
snatches a few "posies" - clovers & buttercups
and runs in, for the flies are too thick to stay
many minutes - The other day, he broke a flower
from the stalk, and brought it to me saying
sadly "Mamma, - put 'at on a stem". He has not

forgotten the doings of the "Fourth." When he thinks of it he says "I (Guess / Reckon) I better (hurry / Build a) now". He has funny ideas, all his own, about measuring. He loves "Gather" four bushels, and a cow and a lammin and four "bossys". Loves Jamie "four bushels and a cow & a horse." Loves the Lammin "four bushels and a horse & four doors" (and a bow wow) - The Jarsey is always four bushels. He talks about Fercin & Gertin, says they are "done away to Bandor" and tells how much he loves them. It is hard for him to be in doors so much - but the flies are too bad for him to be out. The top of his head is covered & recovered with bites as it is - so his neck & ears. We hope they will disgust soon. They have been more troublesome for some days - perhaps, have arisen in great wrath because their time is short. Mr Rider says they usually leave in July - I think they ought to retire to private life & reflect & repent. They need to do as much as the President almost -

I thought you could not help liking Northern Illinois
I have not forgotten the region of Lockport, Homer
Elgin, St Charles &c. & the old place at Du Quoin
Isn't it too cruel to have it so deserted, and
overrun with weeds. I cannot bear to think
it is so - & it is marvellous how vegitation thrives
there - your tale of the peach trees at the bottom
of the garden is almost beyond belief - I do not
think I should care to go there to see it in its
present condition -

Well I must tell you somewhat about the
"Brownvillians at Ridgeville" as Lucy says.
and their deeds - Let me see Elias came
the day I wrote last. It was Thursday. Friday
he rose betimes, breakfasted on strawberries
and milk ("top o' last night" he asked almost
for, and got it -) and then with you fishing
tackle he went horseback to the Lake alone -
Came about him - not even a glorious nibble
from the fishes - but Ah me! the flies!
His face was bitten badly and poor Maria
felt sadly to see him so disfigured - but
nathless there are worse things in the
world than flies - Then after dinner we
all, with our aprons & turpentine clothes,
went out to fish some carrion skins
to lend grace to Lucy - got a peach box
full of nice ones - Between two & three

5 } the Hartlets for Mills and we have heard
nothing from them since - They intended
to spend the night at Charles' - go to Bangor
Saturday - I should think from what Elias
said Samuels lumber was coming out fully
as bad as they feared leaving him considerably
worse than nothing - Sad is it it - but it is
well he is Engaged as he is in so good business
Lizzie Harmon who taught the school here
this summer & boarded here helping mig[illegible]
& morning - is here still, now that school is done
helps Almeda all the time - a very good &
pretty girl indeed - Almeda has plenty to
do - I see five big loaves of brown bread on
the table now, besides all the wheat, & she bakes
twice a week - & this is only for Ira & a week
& such washings both as regards quantity and
quality - I never saw before - Mr Rodrick
Laying now has a hired man most of the
time besides Eldridge & Mills - They began

a week ago Monday - Mr. Rider seems very well
I think his face no worse - no better either.
That I know of - I think it likely he may
show it to Dr McKee again this autumn
- 100 grafts have been inserted in the apple
orchard north of the house this Spring &
summer. The trees look finely -
I go out to walk when ever the flies will permit
I have a fine necklace of bites. There are
comparatively very few blueberries this year.
None near here except in the orchard and
those are all gathered now - We picked
some ripe currants yesterday. Mother
sits close by reading a newspaper. Mary is
lying on the floor studying intently an old
Geography - She will look at one picture
ten minutes or more. Likes pictures better
than almost anything else - She says "Now I
can me" very prettily now and always wants
to say "Dear Father" next - I could not
think what he meant when he first said it, but
soon found he meant "Our Father" - Mother has

came – She says it makes her feel "As if Birdie's and Lucy". She will not call it any thing Else. I think she is rather pining to get back to Milo, to watch over her tomatoes & corn & shade little houseplants – Charlie & Jodie & May thought she seems happy enough here – She will not stay more than a week longer I imagine – I do not know whether I shall go when she does or not – Alfredia says I better stay like you come so that you can come for us and she can see you – Shall I do so? The only trouble is I want to see you just as soon as you get to Milo – It will not make much difference I know –

Mayo came near tipping over the table at the five big (crown Prince Edward) on it all in two pans directly onto his own little self. Mother & I were both by and caught the table just after the leaves began to slide –

I have had a nice letter from Anna and was thinking to answer it today, but she will hear from me when you get this, and so it may be better to wait a few days before writing to her –

Jon dear, dear Isaac, my heart is so full, and I could say so much about our three years, that I can hardly say anything. I knew you would remember the day, and I wanted to write, but knew not where a letter would find you then. So I wrote a great long one, three or four times over, in my heart, and tried to be as contented as possible. Please do not speak again of any thing undone on your part towards making the years happy. What more could you have done. My inmost heart thanks you, my precious friend, for all your love and care. I used to feel sometimes, when sick at Du Quoin, that I never should see New England again or live to love you as little Mary so. Though I knew not the Dr's true thought of me. But I know it was your own gentleness, sympathy, watching and nursing, more than all things else that gave me strength & made me well again; I mean, of course, with Our Heavenly Father's favor & blessing. I too, dear Isaac, believe it is my wish to be a true wife & mother, and I would turn away from all the bad mistakes I make, and the manifold causes I have for regrets, & press forward towards the mark. God will help us both in Every duty - and you know not how much your loving & constant overlooking of my faults aids me in striving to be what I ought.

That we may live not only for ourselves and ours but to make the world better is the wish of your own loving Nettie.

Galesville
Jan. 12 1856

Dunlap's N. Y.
Saturday, Jan. 12-1856

My dear Ett, -

Baby in my arms, I sit-
me down to write - I mailed a letter
to you last Monday and one to mother
also - yours & Dr Dunn and love to
Elynia - In the first letter I mailed to
Elynia were enclosed ten dollars from
the lost Pocket Book, which was found.
I hope them all reached you safely -
The babies are well except that
Willis has a cold which he got from
me I expect - do not know how else
he could get it - He must be more
easily affected than Wilder - He's
a regular hoarse - guess he will get
over it soon. He is in my arms and
Wilder asleep on sofa. I do not
know how I got cold but I have a
little - The cold & [illegible]

baby's mouths have made my breasts sore - so that it hurts me to nurse her. I am preparing bread and cheese for them - I forgot to mention the receipt of your second letter Tuesday - Also we had one from Lucy Pond, saying Jenny was some better - Thermometer was 5° below Zero, Tuesday Eve, but more than 80 persons were out to singing school - Wind blew tremendously - Mary is well - She says "that'll be the bestest" - "Mother, what time next?" Babies laugh and play more than ever and hands more - Mary wakes up in the night and says "I dood boy, Jesus" - Can you find the Sabbath texts about Jesus - to bring home to him?

Are you going to arrange for a crop somewhere, next Summer, before you come home? I remember you said you wished you had last season, or something to that Effect - Wilder sits in a rocking chair - tied in. She is a most excellent

baby — Willis would be just as good if he felt guilty as well —

I want to write everybody but cannot — I wrote to Lucy by last mail. The youngest babies on the 10th Willie's 13 3/4 lbs. Wilder some more than 14 Lbs. I called at Mr. Caldwell's and Sofford's when father went to the Office Thursday. I shall direct this to Du Quoin —

Your own Loving

Nettie —

Louisville
Jan. 21. 1856

Dunbar, Jan. 21, 1856.

My dear ...

... Jan. ... Jan. ...
... Jan. ... Jan. ...
... Jan. ... Jan. ...
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... Jan. ... Jan. ...
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... Jan. ... Jan. ...

a good boy, as a general thing - as kind to the "tin lovers" as his quick, ardent nature will let him be - He tries to be very careful - sometimes I see him whispering & tip-toeing about the room when they are asleep - Good Mother was so comfortable - She ought to have had another - Thank on the journey. Did it - the need one? I do not think you will need to send me money - I should rather you would not - It will not be long before you will be home - Some would call me foolish but I do keep longing to see you! I have written every day in the Record Book and happened to do just as you thought I would doing a week at - two days to a page.

I looked over the Expense Book &, as I reckon, there should have been about ($65.00) sixty five dollars in it instead $805.00

I mislaid a bit of a note to you from

Manchester by Mr. Burnham on
last Friday morn - to Chicago, in
hopes you might get it before going
to Indiana -

Upon the strength of your presentiment
I evil after hearing D. I had the
blues - I could not help feeling
sad & anxious and uneasy without
knowing why - It dawned when you were
starting as if I could not let you go
This singular I think - I could not
decide in my own mind how you
came on this floor when mother found
you - O how very very much we ought
to be thankful - surely our year
has begun with "goodness & mercy"
Even unto you to bed - He says "like Jaxon,
a good boy". I had a fine time talking
& reading to him after they left me
After four the babies slept. The dusk at
half past five now - We read a great
many times in a day for "Tom" and
to be read to - In this play I often
hear him talking over to himself what has

dear heart - It is midnight, & dear
Father Wilder is asleep - Brother Alfred
& sleep most always - I rather envy
little naiads just as long as he feels so
I am - There is a letter for each
end of the room - I know you long to see
them! — They both waked up just before
noon today, & I have just got them to
sleep again - I am going to send the
letter from Almeda & mother - Snider
has been selling his stock - sold the
whole to Wicks - providing that he shall
furnish him & his wife with a dwelling
place, suitable food & clothing & care in
sickness - Almeda was daily expecting
to start for Bangor or Boston - Her
letter was mailed the 14th Jan. His
dear second letter and the pieces
under the same cover - Walter cut
his leg above the knee
in the woods Thanksgiving
day and has been quite sick
ever since - not able to go over on his
crutches yet. Eldridge given up, making
a road he says - getting out of the woods
as fast as he can. What he had made
living going to school - James at the
village as usual. Almeda not been
down for five weeks. Almeda & Lucy
have had a time of it. I wrote to mother
by Saturday mail —

Good night, dear own dearest.

Loving Mother

Antoinette

Jan 24 1836

by Lincoln

Chicago Jan 24 1836

My Dearest,

Your letter mailed at Chicago
Sat. Evening, 23d. 1836 ran — by Sunday's
mail. The same day I mailed one
to you, to Chicago, and addressed it
from Eldridge's Tavern. I do write a letter
to Chicago today, and not write again
till next week, hoping in the meantime
to receive one from you. And now
for what you will say next. Have
I been sick? I wonder what
the next chapter of accidents will be.
What a journey you have had of it
the very beginning. But thank for you
have been preserved. Is it blessed
to trust. Our Heavenly Father! Is
that He, in infinite wisdom will direct
& guide all our ways. I do long to have
you home, I sigh to be united with

with babies and all things else - Mrs
[illegible] - yesterday was fine and
so is to day - mild & clear - I went
to the singing above from eight to
nine last night - house was so
full as crowded as it could be - Globe
was crowded full - great many came
to hear - I have not felt as well as
usual for some days - I do not know
but I must conclude that I am a
[illegible] hypocrite, I long to do what I do not
think do - almost every thing I eat
hurts me, or else something else
does - Last Tuesday we had calls from
four ladies, and yesterday Mrs
Hannah Marshall, & Mrs Enoch
Marshall, & Mrs Jonathan Ireland
& wife, & a Miss Straw were
here - So it is a bout every day -
The babies have both, within a day or
two begun creeping, their aunts
[illegible] very assiduously, all possible comfort
in so doing - What must I do about

it? Anything? I think I do, grown fat some since you left. The [illegible] on the floor & [illegible] nightly - Willie is there too now - they are not cook badly at all - Charley is out the floor too playing with their feet - He grows more careful about hurting them -

Mrs. Kimball is just alive, no more. I must stop -

Always your own

Sister -

Father & mother send love -

I think mother seems better -

Jennie has begun study in part - Uncle Pond's - but can not study much - not more than 2 hours per day -

Antinette

Feb. 6, 1836

Decatur N. Y.

Wednesday - Feb 6, 1836.

My dearest, -

Before me lie your last two letters, dated Jan 26th & 29th. The latter - received this yesterday - & which, on your birth day - You seem to think you are getting advanced in years - Dear Isaac, do not mention it - if I can help it - that you shall have any more to mourn over and do with business at home, as you have done, to make you grow old before the right time. It should not be - I hope you may live many years yet, and be a blessing and for naught - Well I may help each other in the right way - the path of duties - It seems to me I do my part most miserably - Not a day passes but I think of that - & the obligations under - to pour out our whole

hearts in praise and thanksgiving to the bountiful giver of all good. Were you not saved, to be useful? to do great good in the world? So may it be!

We were sorry you forgot that name. It was Wingate. I suppose you are almost ready by this time to leave Chicago and start homeward — at least I do hope so. I thought I would direct this to Elgin, taking it for granted that you would leave Chicago soon if you have not already.

You speak of being tempted to live at Dubuque. I do not dislike the idea only I should like to be as near to my father & mother as possible — and I think the climate farther north would suit you better, and perhaps me also. It seems a pity not to have your money invested there, and not to have your part of the business carried for as it ought to be. I have been out this P.M. to make some calls. Mayo went with me, and a better boy never was. He enjoyed it

prettily - He carried a large apple to an old lady (Mrs. Stinson) & and presented it very prettily - One lady asked him if he would give her one baby - He put a long face on and said "No I can not spare one of my Bowers" - You know he always used to say "Jeth". What made him change I don't know - He always persists that the picture of little Samuel in his Song Book is "dear Uncle Samuel" - Mrs. Wilson called here to night, and she asked him to come & see her - "Well - I'm-very - busy now" was his answer - He has an idea of beginning every sentence with well, just now - He speaks of you about every night when I put him to bed - Sometimes says "when will my Pa ever turn" - Once he asked if "Dod was with his pa ever" - But I need not write all this, when I hope to see you all so soon - The babies know their mother Evidently now - Willie really scolded at mother the other day because she had no

Spectacles on - I think you will say he has altered more than Wilder - They are both just as good as babies need be - I had a letter from Lucy last Saturday. He had five letters by that mail. and I mailed one to Emma. I have - Have - writing to Lucy today.

Did I tell you Mrs. Kimball was dead She died Sept. 1. For three, six hours before she died she gave no sign of life except to breathe - could not move a finger - It was a very distressing death - Father has gone into the singing school this eve - There is to be a lecture concert in about a week.

I am so glad Banks is Elected Speaker - I think it good - best; The babies are both fast asleep this Evening - I seem to be quite at leisure - C I long to talk to you so much! I seem to know you will be here by next week certainly - Then we will rejoice together.

I have been making calls - Am expecting Miss Allison from Canada here sometime this week - She is visiting in Town -

All send love, but most all from Your own loving Nettie -

Elgin, Feb. 26-1876

Sat. morning - Mother on the
[illegible] Elias gone
[illegible] all sleeping - wish we knew
just what you are doing, or at least whether
you are safe in Dubuque - I have had two
letters, one from Galion, and one from
Galloway - sorry we all are for your delays.
Hope you will be able to make connections
so as to get home by Saturday night
at any rate - Elias starts to go tomorrow
morning - He spent most of yesterday at
Chas. S. - Watson De Witt was here to
dispatch with him, and he went back
with him about eight, and stayed
an hour or two - Hattie had a long story
to tell him - I did not go out to day - it
is very wet walking - Albina & Charles
& Anna & Jessie stopped after meeting
till almost night. We had a good time

singing - I sent the question Portia
& papers to S.S. Mr Ely superintendent
Alvina said he "had a good deal of
shiners!" But she said, moreover, that he
did well, and everything went on nicely
today has, with great pains, printed a
few lines to send to you - Yi, [illegible] writes
to write, but did not get about it till
two o'clock - Mother seems to have taken
cold, and does not feel very well -
A little boy of the widow Proctors died at
our neighbor Proctor's last week and
was buried Friday - scarlet fever -
Mrs Bennets two children both sick
& I sent here for help - I sent her to
Mr. Hitchcock).
I like Lyra Americanus very
much -
Good night - your Nettie -

Sunday morn. all comfortable Elmer
finds [illegible] He will
mail this for me - The boys
have been very good - today
I also -

Dumbarton, May 22 - 1866

Dear Dr Isaac,

I will write a few lines to send by this afternoon's mail - Father and mother are gone to North Dumbarton to make calls &c - Willie is sleeping and Wilder playing on the floor - Edmette finishing her ironing Jenny sewing & talking as fast as possible - If I could I have been almost lost - without your dear self & Mary to help to fully employed with the babies as not to be lonely at all - I cannot tell how many times I fancied I heard Mary yesterday - The babies seem as well as when you left - perhaps better - They slept very well - Wilder only waked once, and did not cry at all during the night -

Willie waited three times and cried some - I rose at half past four & builded a fire and took the babies up - warmed milk, &c and they both went to sleep again till after breakfast - Idenath washed and dressed me - She helps very much with the babies, - much more than when you are here & without my asking her at all - So it is not hard for me you perceive Mrs. Safford and Ellen were here yesterday P. M. - Bradford Burnham reached home in fine season without any trouble. Did Anna get a view of Monadnock during the ride? I forgot Mayo's milk. Did he ask for it, or did he get along comfortably without? I hope you will not find him troublesome to yourself or Lucy or any body else. Idenath will stay till you return from Maine but says she would like to go

as soon as we can find other help - I do so dislike to change - There are several reasons why I should prefer not to have a Stranger girl and I know of no one Else about here - I suppose I had better be making some inquiry & secure some one as soon as possible, - had I not ?

I suppose you are about reaching your journey's End now - If it does right or would do any good I could gladly wish I were with you and could see Lucy & Percie and all the rest - I think about you all and rejoice in your joy. Hope you find Lucy much better than you expected -

Mr. Colby & Rogers are here to day at work - were here yesterday also - have taken the lawn away and spaded the corner of the garden

Willie waits - good bye dearest love to all - Miss Mayo and Lil

him to be very careful to be good and not worry & trouble Aunt Lucy - What do the Persons say to Each other?

Lovingly yours

Nattie

Antonette Saunders
May 22 '76
Bangor

Antoinette Brown Blackwell
May 24 1852
Bangor

Dumbarton - 24 May - 1852

Dearest Isaac

The day is done and all have retired to rest but me - When I listen I can just hear the soft breathing of the dear babies - but there is no sound or motion from little Mayo's bed - O how I wish dear Isaac for me to speak to - Except as I talk to you on paper, and this I could not resist the inclination to do - It has been very warm yesterday & to day - The babies have fretted a good deal - Willie has considerable diarrhea; but they both sleep as well as usual at night - wake at half past four - Every morning I get right up and dress me then - I am better myself to day - have had diarrhea attended with some pain ever since you left - and have felt miserably in the mornings - but get

better before night - Father rode all the way to Hopkinton Thursday to engage an exchange tomorrow with Mr. Angier and this afternoon Uncle Rufus Putnam & wife have come to spend the Sabbath - The expect Rev Mr Charles Marshall from Crawfordsville Ind. will be here also - Father was sorry he was to go to Hopkinton, but thought he must go - so he started - got almost there & met Mr Angier just starting. He deemed rather to choose to go back as he had been from his people considerable of late - so father came home again - We have had a fine thunder shower this afternoon - some hail. I long to hear from you - hoped for a letter to day - We had one from George - I remailed one to Mother which came by Thursday's mail, from Bangor - I want to know how Mayo behaves - whether he is a good boy does well at table, and at prayers,

and it kind and good to dear little Percie. I want to know how Mary is and how you all are. Tell me how Mallie's baby looks too. My eyes begin to grow heavy. and I'll stop.

Sabbath. Eve. A sudden change of weather has brought us a very cold day. We have a good warm fire in the sitting room and are all here, Father mother uncle, aunt &c. Rev. Marshall was delayed. will be here the present week. So much preached all day, and preached better than usual. really quite good sermons. I do not know how long they will remain. A very full meeting to day. The Anti-Slavery concert has been held this evening.

What startling news from Washington regarding Mr. Sumner. How horrible! Our people seem quite in earnest about it. I went to meeting this P. M. and Asenath in the A. M. Willie's diarrhoea has been troublesome to day. I feel

as if I almost ought to do something for him - have not given him anything yet - only boil his milk - This may be all he will need.

Monday morning Cold and raining - chilly and damp Enough - Willie washed and dressed and asleep - Wilder asleep in his double dress - Capt. Whipple has been over, an hour or more to see uncle & aunt - Willie & Wilder slept till almost four o'clock last night without waking - I rose at half past four as usual and had a bright fire in about a minute - Jennie's "Commutter" came for her about Eight - and she is gone to her school in quite good spirits - May succeed attend now.

Wilder is really creeping to day in spite of his long dress - He got about a quarter of the way across the long room crowing finely about it - I long to get the short-clothes done - Shall miss Jenny a good deal about the babies - Mother says give her love and say that babies have not cackled here since you left -!

Eve. Mrs Anderson here to spend the night - also cousin Samuel Putnam. Willie needs me - They do the most comfortable more than usual love - one pratfuls & want to be held - Love & good night for you. Nettie

Dumbarton, May 29. - 1866 -

Dearest - Isaac -

If you come this week, you will not receive a letter if I write but some thing may detain you - Yours came by Tuesday's mail - I look for it Saturday but not very confidently - I am so glad you dont be well and does not trouble you very much - But how I want to see him - Glad you had a pleasant journey, and found dear Lucy no worse Very glad the cape will be of use - I feared it would not answer for a city boy -

Hope you will get Lucy's garden in fine order and not be a very great while about it - I am willing to spare you a little time but I do not love to think of your going West again - A letter came from Mr Keyes Tuesday - It is such woful chirography that I have no patience to decipher it all

There is considerable Du Quoin news in to-
day. Wood is East assisting Miss Paine.

The babies have really had a hard
time with Diarrhea - both of them - but
both seem better now - Willie has very
perceptibly lost flesh - One night he did
not really get to sleep till after two o'clock.
I would think he was asleep and just get
nicely covered & dispersed for a snooze
myself when he would cry - He cried about
two hours very hard indeed. I could do
nothing to stop him. Walter sleeps finely
all the night. I cannot leave him on the
bed an instant awake, without watching
the creeps to the very edge as Mary used to
and looks over - without Mary's care-
fulness. I could put on short dresses
now - we have enough nearly to begin with -
But the weather is too cool for the change
I keep thinking what a fine time you are
all having together - and am glad for you
and it creeps into my mind now & then
that I should have an nice kind Miss Ida if I

were there - Cousin Samuel is here a
does our running to Post Office, &c
&c - a very quiet, pleasant, accommo
dating boy. I've got a carriage for Cabin
from Concord at $2,50 with permission
to take it back when done using - They
enjoy it very much. I can just both
into it but it too heavy there for me
to draw a great distance - so I take
one when the other sleeps.

Everything is so beautiful here now, such a
dark, bright, lively green, that I do wish
Mother & Anna could see it - We did
not have one bright, fine day while they
were here - Give great love to them and
to all from me - Thank mother & Anna
for the few lines from them, and tell
Anna I shall be glad of the long letter
whenever she can write -

Mother is well as usual, sleeps better
than before for a long time - thinks it
must be because she gets the Cabin to
ride every day - I shall hope the night

3

I to day will bring me another letter from you —

Lovingly, your own Nettie

Have had Asparagus twice. The Tomatoes seem a larger than when we set them out. The cold weather delays them. Corner of garden not planted as yet. We heard indirectly yesterday that Jenny was succeeding very well in her new Employ — You did not say a word about Percie. I want to hear from him.

Antrim Barnstable
May 29 '76
Burgess

Dumbarton Feby 31 - 1856

Dearest, -

Yours of the 25th and 27th came by last mail and brought me great joy. How glad I was to hear a good account of the eyes. If he only continues to be good, it will be better yet. Hope dear Lucy has recovered from the effect of the cold and hasn't had any more. I should like to see your gardening, with the help of the two little boys. How cold it is! The air seems to come from snow banks. We have had two or three very warm days, but all the rest have been very unusually cold for the season. The Fennel is beginning to be growing both in the ground leaves pinched & purple & shrivelled. The peas look well - I am glad you got Grass Seeds finely over the lawn.

The dear babies are better. one day and
worse the next. Wilder as back as Willie
I have given them a little spice tea
cinnamon & all spice - It seems to check
the diarrhea somewhat - I dont know
but charcoal would be preferable.
They want to hold most of the time.
I do love to comfort the little troubled creatures.
They both creep when they feel pretty
well. Willie goes backward, and gets
over the ground (or floor) faster than
Wilder. How kind Lucy is to think
of sending me the sash & bonnet - It will
certainly save me a good many stitches
but I put as if she ought not to send
them. Having put the short-dresses
on yet, it is too cold. I hope you will
go to Mrs & Brownrigs with Lucy
We intend very well with the babies
and all. Adamath will go next I
suppose and Mary Stimson comes
S. he had heard. Three applications
from Concord & one from Jo Palmer

but comes here for the sake
of being nearer home. She seemed
pleased with the idea of coming. I expect
she is a greater worker than beneath
much more rapid - but may not
be quite so good natured.
Jenny is at home to day - seems
quite satisfied with her week's work
and Mrs Perly told father he thought
they should have a good school.
Father was in school about an hour
last night - reported favorably - the
committee visited her last Wednesday
You cannot imagine how nicely the
little ones slept - last night - even
till morning light appeared.
I do so rejoice that Mary & Teresa
Enjoy themselves together and get
along so comfortably - It would be
hard for Lucy to look on if they
did not; as rude as trouble all of
you -
Mrs Charles Marshall arrived in Jackson

and [illegible] for [illegible] - [illegible]
[illegible] -

[illegible] is June 1. Mary's birthday. Mother longs to see her & Edward Jr & Ethan & me & Father & Miss Ann & Miss Ann & G. W. [illegible] Ann Bartlett almost as much as his mother does. I did not know that they would be glad & relieved to miss his noise for a time - but they never speak of that. I must stop or the next will be [illegible] with the Letters - I shall hardly need to write again - shall I? Unless I hear something new from you -

Love, very much from

Hattie -

Mrs. Ellis never Read Love - Remember me to your mother & relations Before she leaves -

Hartford Dunlaps
May 31, 1836
Bangor

Elyria, Ohio –
Wednesday Jan 21/57

My dearest,–

I believe I have not written to you since Saturday – the letter came Saturday night – from your having been a week on the way came round by Cleveland, and this morning the Dr. to my great joy came in with two letters from you and one from George. Good news. O how good it is to have absent friends well – is compensation, in part, for the pain of separation to hear that you are well. If we only all keep so while you are away, I shall feel it matter for very great rejoicing. What will you think when I tell you that I am the

not come yet, and that ever since a week ago last Monday I have put all the wood in the furnace and brought all the wood for the kitchen, except one ~~fi~~ filling the box - and been up before seven and built the kitchen fire &c. The fire in the furnace has not gone out since she went away. Then we had the ironing & last week to do and baking this week and all sorts of things. And how cold it has been constantly. Do said at eight o'clock in the one night it was 10° below zero and at two o'clock in the day time it was either two or four degrees below. There is a good deal of snow too and very good sleighing - It was warmer yes

Sunday - snowed about all day.
Emma was over here an hour, with
stockings on over shoes
I bought print for a dress
last monday and carried it
to the dress maker to make
concluding I could save enough
to pay for it doing without
a girl a week or so!

Sabbath day Jennie went to
meeting in the A. M. and I in
the Eve. I heard Mr. Hamel of
the Methodist Ch., and had
a hard time, unless I judged
hardly. It was most fictionally
long and dull and hard and loud.
and all seemed weary. How good
you were to write me so much
news about Du Quoin people. I am
glad to hear about them. I should
like to have Mr & Mrs Kyd come

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
here, but should want you
at home of course, and you
will be I reckon. George is
well and evidently enjoying
the winter finely.
Little Wilder is fast asleep on the
Bed - dear good little boy he is.
It is so much pleasanter to day
that I shall take him over to
Mrs Anna when he wakes. I think
He seems quite well - Jimmie
I think is decidedly better than
when you left - She asks almost
every day if she shall not stay
at home to help me, but I
do not love to have her - She
helps all she can out of school.
You speak of sending a foolscap
sheet to me on the 15-1½ that
page I as not come yet. Anna had
a letter last night - from you.
No news from Bangor since you
left - O how I think of you, &
long for you - Lovingly Nettie -

Jan. 24 1857

Elyria, Saturday Eve, 24 Jan. 57

My own dearest—

I wrote to you yesterday and I feel just like beginning again to night— Another letter came to day mailed at Springfield last Wednesday - came quick, did it not—? Perhaps you are at Dr Quinn to night— If you left Springfield Wednesday night - you are, and I hope have heard from us again. The new girl does finely - takes nice care the furnace, and keeps all neat & clean. We eat most of the time now in the Kitchen. It is altogether too cold for the dining room - Lemma tries to persuade me to have the stove moved into the dining room - I have not decided to do it yet— I hope it will not be so cold a long time. I had a letter from your

mother is right. She had heard from you & had mailed a letter to you at Des Moines. Poor Mr. Rider, she says suffers dreadfully now. Says he never would try to swallow again if it were not duty. O how mother misses dear Lucy - her every letter shows it in some way. Baby fast asleep on the bed - Jennie looking over her French lesson at the stand. Elizabeth just gone down to the furnace - (clock striking nine) she will lift a stick I could not move & put it into the furnace) x x x I just been down cellar - always go down at night - to see that all is right about the fire - other than this have not taken a bit of care of the furnace since the girl came. She seems careful. I was a little afraid of the shine of her eyes, at first, but I guess she will do. Well, good night, my dearest - I miss

thee at the dawning grey - But most
beneath the lamp's pale beam - I miss
thee from my side". I dreamed one
night that you came home - It
was a glad surprise - But it was
rather rainy awakening to the
reality -

Sabbath Eve. A most delightful
day and evening - I went to meeting
in the P. M. and we both went this
evening leaving the sleeping baby
under Elisabeth's care - She did
not wake while we were away.
O I do so long for little Mary sometimes
and the tears come all at once, now
and then when I look at Wilder, alone
Whose fate is most to be envied? Those
who have done with life and are
safe in Heaven, or his who lives, to
take life's pleasures & its sorrows
to battle with its storms, its temptations.

tions and its due?.

Little Walter says "Papa" very sweetly - always points to the door if we ask him where his father is. It is strange how he clings to me since you went away - perhaps not - strange either.

Jennie has seemed pretty well since the first - week she began to take her pills. She has an excellent appetite - has some idea of sending you a list - of articles devoured at one meal I believe! Really we have not - starved at all since you left us - It seems to me we dispose of about as much as when you were here to help. I don't know but you ought to appoint a guardian over us, in your absence, lest you find yourself seriously impoverished, when you come to examine our bills of provisions.

We have just got done Excellent New Potatoes at 3 to

I- dall Friday and got cloth
& lining for a basque and to
day Miss Crow has been here
and fitted it- and also fitted
the cakes you got- The
latter will make a very pretty
dress indeed - I like it very
much- We got the new coal
oil Friday too- darker in
color than our last but good
they call it- and I think it is.
It has been a beautiful day to
day - The mercury stood at
zero at seven this morning, but
it has moderated fast

Tomorrow at the funeral at
one o'clock P. M. Mr & Mrs
Hicks came to night- Anna
wants me to go down there
early in the morning, and I

shall do so. Probably be there about all day. If I can be of any use

Willie says papa is gone to Ills. in Springfield - We get along nicely with the Children at night -

Your loving Nettie

I must just tell you it is very Evident that Charlie has not forgotten his father yet. He says papa very prettily when we talk about you. You would be pleased to see the face change from this troubled, anxious look when I say dear papa gone to a merry laugh when I say "papa come home - so Charley He wont have any thing to do with Lilian when she wakes in the night without crying about it -

Elyria, Friday, 6th Feb. /57

My dearest,—

I have just scribbled a letter to your mother with nothing in it, and now sit down to write you one of the same sort. Yours of the 26 came Thursday. I am so glad you are so well. Unfortunately the weather is warmer & you will stay to stake out town lots I suppose! I know you will come as soon as it is best, and we are really very comfortable. Too bad that you had got no letters telling you so. But you must have got more before this. We have had a great rain and the snow is almost entirely gone. and it is so warm it seems as if Spring were at hand. Wilder

improves rapidly in walking, though not in talking. He has been full of pranks all morning. He helped me make the bed, in - he pulled off the clothes as fast as I got them on - and he has since been most vigorously brushing the carpet - with broom corn brush - When discovering my writing he came in haste to pull my paper, and nudge my Elbow laughing all while so roguishly.

A letter came from Mrs. Rider Wednesday - Poor suffering man. Two or three days he suffered very much from hunger, being able to take only water - but swallows easier now - takes broma - Quite a hole in his mouth - The hole extends almost from Ear to Ear, and is three inches wide, I think in the widest place - Anna thought I had better

not read about it - Hattie had told me some of it. There is a revival in Brownville, a steady, silent work. Lizzie Searles indulges a trembling hope. Almeda has some joy in the midst of sorrow and care.

I went over to Annais after school yesterday, to go to the sewing circle, but we concluded not to go, and she came home with me and we both called on Miss Woodbury, who is out of school with bronchitis - not able to speak loud. Mr. Wilbur called in my absence, much to my regret, but - Jenny was here. Hattie was here to dinner yesterday. We had mutton steak. I paid my milk man $2,32 for the months milk. Have between three & four dollars now. Shall

need more money if you are
gone a great while longer - Some
thing takes it away pretty fast.
Yesterday, Elisabeth put that cord
and a half of wood that was here
before you went, into the cellar and
piled it up quite nicely - I did not
ask her to do it - I said one day that
it must be done, and she seemed
to take it for granted she was to do it -
Kept asking every day - "Shall I put the
wood in the cellar to day"? I told
her to wait for better weather - it was
so wet - yesterday, in the bright
sunshine, she did it - You know Anna
sent for you to pull a dozen sticks out
of her way - The stove wood not gone
yet, but I must find some one to
saw some before long - Jennie sends love.

All good be with you -

Lovingly Father

Anna says she shall write to mother that we shall
probably be here all summer - She is very
anxious mother shd come - If we are here I
should be sorry not to have her -

Feb. 20 1857

Elyria, Ohio —
Friday, 20th Feb. 1857

My dearest, —

Last night came three good letters from yourself of the 9th, 10th & 11th. and one good long one from Albina — The first that has come from Milo since we came here I think. Was I not a happy child! I reckon! And it is so good to hear that you are so well. Truly we should be grateful — And your letters this time make me unusually happy for I think you must be coming home before a very great while You say — one more days work at laying out lots and then the R.R. location, and I expected it

next sentence was - "then I am ready to go home", and my mouth began to stretch in anticipation you did not say it, as it happened but I took it for granted you meant it, and allowed myself to be glad over it. Emma was here when Jennie came from the Office, so she was just in season for the letters. They are all well at Niles - Albina thinks she never Enjoyed a winter more. Mother had written to them for advice about coming to Ohio in the Spring - so I guess she think of coming. Wednesday I had a letter again from little Elsie Paddock, of Homer, Ill. where I used to teach. I wish you could go there, & I too.

This has been a rainy week. Every

day except Tuesday; and every night - I think. It rains very steadily to day, freezing as it falls, making it wofully slippery - Do not expose yourself too much to the winter wind or carry that heavy instrument too much I want to see your weather-beaten face - I shall begin to be jealous of the Prairie Winds! Don't like the idea of their being too familiar with a face that belongs to me! No news from the Cosmopolitan yet. I should think it was time. I am glad the church building advances, or is likely to do so. What ails the matter be with Dea. Sprague? He ought to be the foremost in the matter - Hasn't - he a good wife or, has an incredible dislike to

board come over him - Baby hits me now and then & I do not write prettily at all. He does not make much progress in getting acquainted with the girl - He is a constant appendage to my skirts whenever I go out of the room - He does not like to have mount of his sight - a moment. I long to know what he will do when he sees you. Jas. Twenty Thousand is quite an estate truly - I hope we shall do our duty with it, & be thankful for it - Pray we be rich in Heavenly treasure

When you have come back north of Du Luoin get unsold how you not?

All well as usual at the Dr's.

Your own loving

Nettie —

Jennie sends love to you —

Brother John lost a sweet little girl this fall. She was just six weeks older than Clie. They were always very much attached to each other, like. Clie was sick, as long as she took any interest in anything she would ask to go and see Hattie after she died. Hattie used to say, to her mother. She

wanted to go to heaven and be with
little Alie." Dear little one, how little that
her wish was so soon to be realised —
After mother took her and went to visit
a sister living at St Cloud. The day that
John expected them home he got a letter saying
that Hattie was very sick, and in about two
hours afterwards she got home with her body.
Her spirit had gone where no stain of earth
shall ever soil it. It was a great affliction, but
it is pleasant to think they are together.

Nettie, Elyria Sept. 22, 58

Elyria, Ohio
Wednesday morning Sept. 22.

Nettie Elyria Sept. 22 1858

My dearest Isaac —

I do not know as a letter will reach you, but will just write enough to let you know that we are doing very well — as well as we can without you. The first night after you left the children were rather restless and we did not rest very well any of us; but last night Wilder handly stirred at all, and baby only two or three times. Wilder had a good deal of diarrhea yesterday, but feeding on rice will set him right I think. Dr & Anna & baby & I rode out to Mr Walls, after they returned from the Depot Monday. Had fine ride. I did not get out but sat in the carriage with sleeping Charley while they were in. Yesterday Dr. brought up some tomatoes for me, & Anna was here a while. & Sophia Hart also. No letters since you left. I do want to know how you are prospering. Kate & Rollin do very well. Rollin is gone now to Mr. Potters to see if the meal or bran is come. & Wilder

with him in his little carriage. Emma &
I think some of riding down to call on
Mrs Ely's mother - who is here, - this P. M.

May all good be with you in all your way -
I shall look for a letter Saturday, shall I, or
will you have no opportunity to write -

Baby clings to me - so do excuse such letters.
Wilder asks for your plate every meal time & sets
up a chair in your place -

Loving Nettie -

Nettie Elgin
Aug. 16 1859

Elgin, Aug. 16, 1859 –

Dearest –

'The day is done', and in spite of my poor eyes I must sit down and pen a record for you. Clara has just come up to tell me Wilder was a good boy to-day, & I felt so glad I could not wait till morning to tell you of it. I have really felt troubled all day with the fear that you might regret taking him. He is so different from little Mayo that I think he may not be so pleasant a travelling companion. But your favorite motto comes to my relief – "In trouble" &c –

I remained at the Dr's half an hour or more after you left, and picked up and shut up, in the

front part of the house, and then walked very small pace home to a little fortune, disconsolate Charlie and a little smiling, quiet Baby - As for Charlie he did not be comforted till after dinner, when he went to sleep, and waked up feeling better. We ate a lonesome dinner, Charlie pointing every few minutes to the vacant places, and saying "papa" "Wilder". When we both lay down on the lounge together, & went to sleep = When after I rummaged and regulated some drawers, and wrote a letter to Dumbarton. The thermometer stood for several hours at 86°. Between four & five Willah took Charlie and went down. For the butter, and mailed the letter, and called for the tin at Northrups but the was very sorry to say it was not made, and he would surely

have it done by tomorrow night
She also called to see Clara and
brought home some nice meat, and
tarts, that she said Anna left
for us - I was so full of my own
reflections at Anna's before you
started, that I was afraid I
did not do anything properly
that I tried to do - I don't
believe they found sugar enough
in their tea, at any rate - I began
to hem Wilder's bib - Did you take
it? - I found a few ears of sweet
corn, and had some beets with
it, for dinner, & the potatoes left
of yesterday - Charley & I went to the
garden together - He has slept very
close to Anna to day - Good night
11 - Good Morning! I am glad you have
so fine a morning - It is delightful -
The children rested well through the night
Baby perhaps did not sleep quite as well
as usual - Charlie better - This morning

I wrote to Father & Mother Willis
Tuesday morning.

Charlie & I went over to Mr Waldo's a few minutes, for the walk, and to find out how Mrs Biggs did. She has a nice English nurse. It was Annie Biggs that you saw asleep at Mr Waldo's. We came home and went out to the garden, and gathered squashes & cucumbers, and lima beans - and I have washed the cucumbers and put them with the others. The tomatoes grew even so much yesterday. Charlie is sitting on the floor, amusing himself & myself by drawing on to his little sled a pair of my big stockings that happened to be in my basket.

Mrs Waldo said Mr Nesbitt hardly wanted anybody but Mr Waldo about him. He is so weak that he fainted in being moved from one bed to another.

6 o'clock P.M. I'll finish writing so that Lizzie may take this to the office to night. After dinner I mended a little & Charles & I

took a short nap. Then I took baby and Nido and administered to her comfort, and then about four o'clock I went and called on Mrs Snow & daughters, on Mrs Simmons and Mrs Topliff. Found Libbie here when I got back with a letter from Nido from mother - part for you & part for Emma I sent her part back to the Dr - by Libbie. Libbie looked pale and sick - I guess it was too much for her to go to Cleveland, or she ate something that hurts her perhaps. I felt sorry for her She said she had been taking medicine - said her father was coming up here to night.

I am impatient to hear from you to know whether all is well with you - whether Wilder troubles you any of you - Tell him Mama made the baskets

out of the print of his hat—
last night—, and it is all
ready for him when he comes
home— Mamma thinks about
him almost all the time
and wants him to be very mu
to be a good boy and mind
papa & aunty, and say yes
ma'am and yes sir and
not step on Cadie's dresses,
or go before them—

Please pay a little attention
to Wilders finger nails as often
as = your own— Now laugh at
me— Love to Annie and
all— Your own Nettie—

Natia Elysia
Aug. 22 1859

Elysia —
Sunday, Aug. 21, 1859

Dear ol[illegible],—

I mailed a letter to you Thursday morning after [illegible] and Saturday morning also. Saturday night came a letter and deed from Mrs Hayes. Your letter mailed at Lexington came Friday night. I was so glad to hear from you. We take it for granted you reached Bangor at least Saturday. Herbert was up here Friday eve. brought me some plums. I suppose he started this morning for the East. Expecting to be in Dunbarton next Friday night. I hope you may be there next Sabbath. Saturday I gathered cucumbers

squashes, beans, beets, & corn for
dinner and the cook go. Tilla
& I went out & cut the bags.
I heard Libbie part &, and had
some calls in the P. M. Libbie
does not feel well, but I guess
she will be better in a few days &
Her tongue looks bad and she
seems to have no appetite. The
Dr. too feels badly - could not go
to meeting Sabbath day. Mr. Jenkins
read a sermon in the morning
& Mr Goodspeed told the Dr. he
did not hear one word of it. It
was unfortunate. The Methodist
minister preached in the P. M.
The Dr. could have done for
better. Although all he said was very
good, but my head ached with
the noise he made saying it.
Dr. and Libbie both seem to feel
some better to day. I have been
out for cucumbers & squashes

Got- 56 cucumbers all but two
of them put into the pickle.
I do not know what will become
of all our garden sauce. I do not
feel much like setting myself
to Dr to Lilla Eol almost nothing.
Margie's get rid of candidates
however.

It is so good to hear Neal Wilder
was not trouble- good. I do hope
he will continue in well doing.
Charlie is a very good boy- is
learning to manage himself
alone- It has taken us
about all our time to play
with him. He seems quite
indifferent to me as 'papa' of
the Dr- turns his back in his lap-
takes fruit from him, runs
to meet him, & says by by.
When he goes.

Mrs Wilbur came up Saturday
to see me. I scarcely know

where he direct- His letter
stating you may go this
week to Mills or to Dunbarton
I shall write to George, so that if
you go there, you will hear
from us- and direct this to
Bangor I think-

Em, I walked down & called
on Mrs Brooks & then Walt this
P.M. and went to Boswells
to buy he would mend my
shoe- I got a pair of thick
walking shoes & a pair of thin
slippers for myself-

Dr. has just been up
to Lapham- does not feel
very well- Said supper
improved him however-

In haste

Your Nettie

Vtic Elysian
Aug: 27 1859

Elysian Bluff
Saturday, Aug 27 - 1859

Dr & I both started for letters last night, but neither of us received any - Lina, written at Montreal, came Thursday night. Lilla was greatly disappointed at there was a page for her especially -

This is a fine morning - Yesterday the Dr. & Charles was here, and a crowd of people - In the way of the Dr. - More than half were ladies -

Clara came at the time Lilla took her clothes home & I was not thought she should be up this P.M. It is ridiculous that Lina is away, as we are so lonely in the absence of Carlotta - I have never written to me, nor any thing more definite - Charlie would not have

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] first
but he has overcome his prejudices
entirely. We shall probably do the
canning next week. I found a dozen
ripe tomatoes today - the third time
I have picked them. Charlie and I
have fine times gardening - he always
takes his hoe & follows me. He's
getting good about touching things
himself. It wears my back down
- sometimes I make take one of the girls with
me instead - to do the stooping, chiefly.
I think there were fifteen water
melons in the garden - we took one
yesterday - it was very fine. Two
more are plenty ripe. I will give
one to Billy I guess. Like Mr Mundy's
were stolen last Saturday. Nobody
touches ours - I reckon they are
afraid of me. The rabbit is have
been in the garden once or twice -
I found some cabbages badly marked.
Lilian is reading Robinson Crusoe

and is quite interested therein -

How [illegible] much of this
[illegible] over [illegible] Papa [illegible]
[illegible] in the same way - Shall we [illegible]!

[illegible] again 'the day is done' and the
work also - I do so miss you in the
evenings - Here all alone I sit by the
little table, knitting, knitting, knitting,
thinking, sitting & waiting & the
breathing, softly low, of the nurses
sleeping near - Baby is as good as
ever - Charlie good too - Clara has
been up to night & brought me
some nice "pears" to last me over
the Sabbath" she said. I do wish
you & Anna had some of them.
Libbie came up this P. M. She takes
a great fancy to baby - and baby
seems to like her as well -

Monday 29 - I went to meeting yesterday
P. M. We had good preaching - Rev Mr
Dana of Chester - Dr Vaill the A. M
discourse was on Divine Sovereignty

treated quite in the old way and Exceedingly pleasing Mr Perry and Mr Potter &c &c. The text in the afternoon was "Ye are the light of the world". The Dr was up this morning and brought more pears. He shall come down tomorrow. Libbie has been up also, but went back to eat dinner with her father.
I sent seventy cucumbers down to Olana for pickles. To day - just the right size.

Please do not forget to find the little book "Men Who Sought" -

The title of a book advertised in the Independent attracted me - "Here and Beyond, or the New Man the True Man". By Rev Hugh Smith Carpenter - I do not know as you can spend money for books though, just now - I am going down to the Dr's to night to look over the pears and make arrangements for

Elgin
Sept 1 1859

Elgin, Thursday, Sept. 1. 1859

My dear Ed[illegible],

[illegible] morning, thinking I would sit me down at once, and write to you - but the children now, and then after breakfast, some chores to look after, - pistols and the garden, little jobs, & mending & various interruptions delayed me, and now it is two o'clock P.M. Last Eve. about half past eight the Dr. came up, so kindly, and brought me a letter from you, mailed the 24th, and one from Dumbarton, mailed the 29th at Concord - Milton George, I suppose, Herbert had gone for pleasure, I suppose; maybe visiting.

The Dr. had no letter, and has had none, except the one mailed from Montreal - I do not think I

Remember while I'm here - I owe Hiram now - has Hiram now - has

If you have done as well as usual about writing, I have yours? I so much els. to think of perhaps - The Dr was rather disappointed last night = How good it will be to have you get home again - I [illegible] Clara did well - I was down there most of the day Tuesday - The canning is done, if it only stays down, and we have pickled some peaches also, both Clara & I. The Dr got Mr Austin to send up a half bushel of peaches to me - I told him only half a bushel for 40 cts per bush.; but there seem not to be many, so I secure a few now. I shall have to send for Mr Hannon I suppose. They are very nice ones indeed.

Mrs Wilson & the little boys came up Yesterday and spent the afternoon - Libby was here too. Gilli an assistance in amusing the little

Sophie Finley enjoyed herself very much with them very much - they seemed to agree perfectly.
Lee Gibbes, by last telegram was up at Margaretville - but expected home [illegible] to see Wilder home. And how I should love to see the little ones you are living at Wilds & Bangor, as well as dear Alameda and here - I am very glad you wrote to Dumbarton Mother wrote that they expected the marriage to take place on Tuesday, of this week, I suppose. If so they are married, and - what - next - they wrote not. Miss Newcomb was to remain till after the wedding - I am delighted to be very careful of my eyes, and it is quite a trial, now you are away, not to read as much as I like - & then I want to see too.

I think our tomatoes need trimming. They ripen very slowly indeed. Charley is a very good boy indeed. He calls Wilder & Papa regularly every morning, and when we have our tea at night wants one put on the table for Wilder. Mrs Mussey has sent for me to go and make a call with her. Now I must go away & get ready. Eve. Well, I really did do quite an afternoons work after half past four. I thought hesitated about going, I felt so tired when Mrs Mussey sent over but I laid down & went to sleep & awaked and dressed & started. We called on her & Mrs Cattin, & had a very pleasant call - Then on Mrs Washburn & Mrs Vincent Then I went into the Tin shop to ask one of them to come to soulder the cans for peaches - & on the way home we called on Mrs Richards the sister of Mrs Simons - Mrs Vincent had

N the Dunbarton
July 21 1860

I got to Norwich to meet the
last train but I was tired that I decided
that as my home was so near to me in my
room at the Angel Hotel, I would
go there. Had a good rest.
Went to bed in the middle and
woke about. I found I would be
just as soon home to wait in Norwich
till 11.14 Friday A.M. so I decided
my visit to Thorpe Hamlet and
Manchester. To Thorpe I went
in a tram. Went and I did not
know where to find my brother.
About four I started out a walk
and went into three or four shops
and then walked on simply to
while away the time. Happened to
turn my eye I saw S. A. Hotel
in a door plate with our name
I knew it was the name of
some of our friends

Nettie Dunbarton

July 21'60

Nettie Dunlavoss

July 28 1860

Plantation St. H—
Saturday, July 28, 1860

My very dear Jane—

I have written two letters to you, and received one from you since I wrote. I cannot tell what to say or how to write upon. I cannot tell how strange it seems to be away from you and our little ones. My plan has been to stay three weeks after George came that would be just—two weeks counted from the last night, and then spend one week in New Orleans, and then home as fast as possible. [illegible] And I do not [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] George, and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Now to [illegible] [illegible]

Father was not able. He had another turn of blindness & headache yesterday A.M. Was so severe as sometimes, and he feels quite [illegible] today. I called at Epheir's while waiting for the cars. She seemed delighted to see me, knew me at once & urged me to visit them. I saw some of my old scholars too. I hastened to the horse by the trees south of the church, because the horse is a little afraid of the cars, and walked to Edg. Hills and the Depot. George said he knew me as soon as he saw me coming. Though he did not know who was with me. It was Sabbath Eve. We had a nice ride home it being a delightful day. We expect some of the Parsonage Party here this week. The Church voted to give George a call last week, and the society were to act as soon as possible, & I think the legal document has probably reached Bangor before now. George had decided to stay, another week till a letter reached him Tuesday night. That was [illegible]

[illegible] time [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
time to come. This week is [illegible] —
he is busy. But has agreed one [illegible]
with Mr Ray of Watertown to [illegible].
He rather likes the idea of going to Vermont, I
imagine, though he thinks it may be a rather
difficult place. Mr H. Parker of Deerfield
and Mr Thurston of Dearborn came
with him in the train to Boston, and introduced
themselves and had a good deal of talk
about the place & people. The church has
just [illegible] on the question of politics.
The democratic portion, including the richest
wealth, have decided, and they [illegible]
are wanting a minister at once. The original
church want to keep the young people and
new ones to draw them away, & the result
is this struggle among them. Mr Lamb minister
who goes there, will [illegible] [illegible].

Last Tuesday A.M. I drove for Father and Mother
over to Mr Rays, and then Mother & I went
on to the P. O in the afternoon. [illegible]

came to unharness the horse he found a loose shoe and it troubled him some at once. You may recollect that he likes to do things now. So I told him I thought I could go after them and get the two mine shoes set as he wanted. He harnessed the horse for me, and I went to the blacksmiths to get the work done. Wednesday I did not feel very well. I dreamed about baby with the light. Thought you and I were jumping with her; and by some means found me all alone had lost you, and then both woke up in great agitation and could not get asleep again for some time. Mrs Safford came over and stayed some time. Mrs Brown came and finished a pretty print that I got for mother at Worcester. I wanted it finished so I could make it right up for her. Mrs Brown helped me some. Mother has not been well the last three days but I think feels more comfortable this morning. It seems hard to me to think of parents. This Miss Colby who helps them is very good if she would remain, but she has engaged to pick hops by Sept 1. and then she wants to visit [illegible]

Sunday morning. And Certainly their George's first love is due to The Lord. He is the first in all and daily Two Sabbaths, and then arranges with Them for Communion The first of Nov. George says he does not feel worthy, as he has done, since now. He feels as if he must first shake off the worldly and Labors & Trials. He was about to Enter an untried [illegible] Perhaps I can sympathize with these feelings a little at any rate. They are a sign to What dear young women feel after promising to be married. They are feelings hardly to be explained only to be felt, deep down in the heart. Trust, blessed trust in an overruling, and all sustaining Providence is the only antidote. A young man like George needs a constant Spirit of prayer for himself, and Christian friends to hold him up by their prayers & counsels. May he have Grace and he is safe.

Sabbath P.M. just leaving Dr. B. time to get

May, 1860

Wilmington

[illegible] Dear Mother, Two days from
[illegible] Not knowing
[illegible] Dear Mother I'll say,
as he wrote them, that I was well &
& [illegible] at $75, and more
all objections, and [illegible] Ingersoll was
Athens. If they had come over Monday
they probably would have [illegible]
as I [illegible] had no other call and
was under no obligations to [illegible]
But as it happened they were not quite
one day too late. They dined, really, disap-
pointed. But we did not blame anyone but
themselves. George and I were away
when they came. Then John Kimball and
family [illegible] there, and we had just
called at Levi Sill's on way home.
This P. M. we are all invited to
Brig[illegible] I still think I shall
leave here either the last if not next week
or more likely the first. This week [illegible]
to [illegible] leave [illegible] for
George. [illegible] each. Whether father will
[illegible] be able to preach, cannot be known
yet. He feels some better, [illegible], and
has a better appetite. Dr Burdick thinks
[illegible] the trouble was indigestion
He has complained of nausea all the while.
[illegible] Sunday just seems to me all to go over
there this week sometime to visit. Father & mother
send much love. Do you hear anything
of Jenny? [illegible] is the first day of
fine [illegible] I [illegible] I would write more
[illegible] but it is [illegible] as it is time to
[illegible]

Nettie Dunbarton

Aug. 1 1860

Lumberton, N. C.

Tuesday, Aug. 1, 1860

My dear Nettie

Father is going over to Lowood this morning and I will write a short letter to send by him to my intended lover & friend Aug. 2 - received June 29 last - mail contains a bill for dress goods for you and a kind Comm. mother Bridle for which May last - thanks. She says she sees better every day. Now as to my journey & matters. I have something over $ 10,00 now. The bundle of yard articles I extract to send for my old Saturday and pay shortly as Commutation Certificate from Fort Fisher Wilmington agent, finding I could not have time to get it done in any other way - When it arrives

the hat - I want - to get a dress suit and a reticule of some sort, the latter for myself, and one for Anna also, if I can find anything I think will suit her and costing not more than two and a half or three dollars. Anna did not want to go above this I believe - But it may be I cannot find anything - I paid out - to get from Worcester home three dollars and forty cents ($3.40). Made some little purchases at Worcester and at Concord What the ticket from Cleveland to Worcester is I do not know. Mr Wilson gave me $1.50 I suppose I think - (It might have been $1.75 - I do not remember exactly) Do you can judge what I should need - George can get money enough to get out there with, and what we pay for him need not be sent here - Remember to direct to Westboro. Mrs Walker has been here since Saturday - goes over to Concord this morning with Father

Mr. Kimball visited yesterday at Capt. Kimballs - Sunday Mrs John Kimball took tea here. The thermometer yesterday and day before went up to 96° and was several degs higher all around us - I have not felt the heat so much before this summer - The hail thunder showers last night, and it is cloudy this morning but very warm -

Jane appears Mother is getting very tired - I know you try not to have her - Washing the little boys is pretty hard work for her - I suppose they love to have her dress -

Love to all at Home, and all at the Iris -

In haste -

Your loving Sister -

Nettie Dunbar

Aug. 2d 1860

Binghamton N. Y.

Thursday, Aug. 2 - 1860

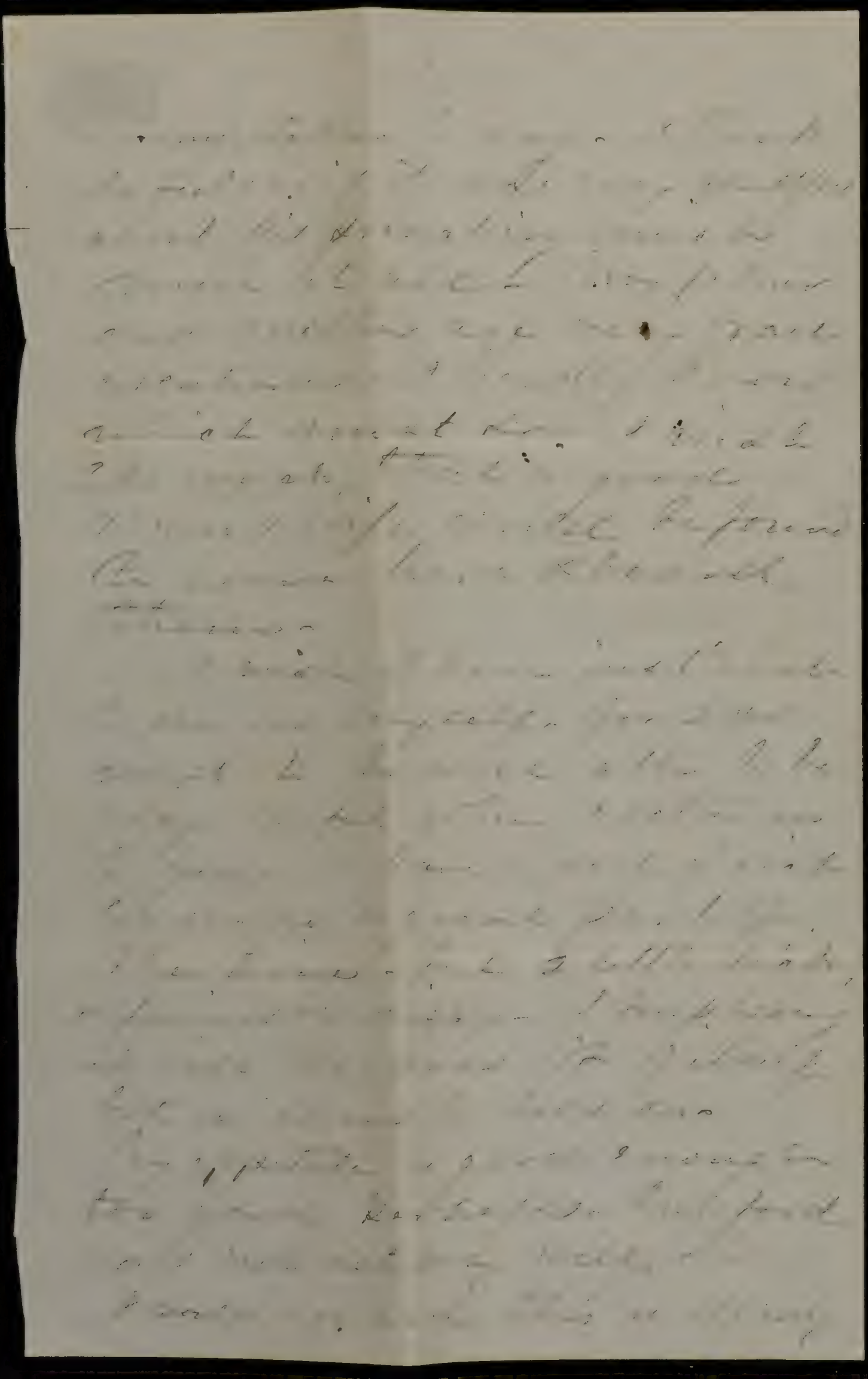
My Dear ...

Your good letter, received last morning, yesterday was my birthday. I was sixteen last night. You did not say a word about going home, and I waited to see if I had a letter. Ten o'clock this morning came and still no letter. Then I thought perhaps you were coming yesterday afternoon, but you did not. Then I thought perhaps you had come & I was disappointed. Then I thought perhaps you had written & I should get it this morning. But no letter came. I was disappointed.

for Thursday I am glad of. that was quite a blest time. I enjoyed it very much. I suppose the Warrens are a real treat. Ground Hog is not at all work too hard. Last Monday Mr & Mrs Hilton were here some time in the A.M. Talking over old times. Sat. we had Mrs Mills now in Pres. Standard. She was in San Francisco as first assistant but superintendent in Alameda. Mr Mills is at Mare Island 150 miles from San Francisco. He is to be the Superintendent of that. In the P.M. we all went and took tea with Mrs Emerson, by invitation and then George & I called over to Capt. Hinkins and Mrs Hayford's. Sunday, George and I went over to Concord. did a little shopping, Mr Hatch & mother, called at Dr. Colby's the 1st time of Hatch. Feb 4th dined at Dr. Colby's. Called at Mr Conant's and Mrs Hodgkins. It is the nicest they have ever had so very much to have us come & dine. Mrs Hodgkins were done, Mr & Mrs Hodgkins when they came

[illegible] the scenes of his childhood. I think he must have felt rather badly. Many wonder at his coming to Concord. The Democratic Party is split in twain, at least, there, by Pierce coming out so decidedly for Buchanan. Some of the leading Democrats managed to be out of the way that day. Several started that day & the preceding on a journey, with their families. The streets were prettily decorated with flags & streamers. The principal decorations from Boston was made at Lowell. Both the Lincoln & Hamlin Clays, until noon, spent on No. 4 the Douglas ground, and I do not know but they did all day - at any rate they were heard

Sunday Evening - When George and I got home we found Dr. Burbank of Yarmouth here. He had stopped in the Arcade and George, Tiny & Lillie at Bangor and would have been if I had not written to have them come to Biddeford for me. Dr. B. found a letter in Augusta asking him to meet a consultation at Waterville, & Dr. Burbank, George, Tiny & Lillie went. Dr. B. would not come to see me while he could help it, but when he found I was worse & he thought I was in danger he came to Biddeford & met Dr. Weeks & Dr. Burbank. Dr. B. would not leave me until Monday - as the last of all the time I was very sick. Dr. Weeks thought I was not going to live. Dr. B. thought I would. The Lord was on my side. I was very sick at Bangor & the very day of the election & for a week I was not sure, and the agonies of the two Lords of Christ & Satan fought before my eyes. The Lord was on the side of the Lord & Christ. Dr. B. stayed till he knew I was



I lie down religiously Every
day — Mrs C. Kimball and
her little girl (nineteen days
younger than little Alice,) were
here Sunday to see Alice. Mrs.
Whitney, Brigham, and a
piece of Pound Cake for Supper
Mrs Young came down Sunday
with Alice and she is good
company for Clara & Hulda
Brigham, for Julia & Mattie
They have gone home & Father
& Alice are alone. It is now Quarter
Love from, Have you written —

Nottie Dunbarton

Aug. 5 1860

Mountain Home, Aug. 5, 1860

My own Nannie,

I shall send Lonnie back to-night, Jennie, & do believe for you and the children. Have it not for the Entreaties pointed from my father & mother, & the pleasure I should have to meet the Gentlemen & Ladies of Home & Clean, I should not be content. The Yankees are really very Polite - Mother & Family - Father & Uncle Reuben Clearly gaining. Looks & Eats better than when I came in. To be hunting on the Big Island - Mother drives a good deal every day - One time I go a fishing all day & day by lying down on mountain, but when the Head ache Leaves, I am fully done. The Mrs Two Families & Each, like the most medical & Tatum down Lonnie -

George preached on Friday the twenty
first time - Thursday he preached the
seventh day & on Sabbath day again. It is
alleged that he preached for five cents. Bro.
George went away to the Methodist
Church in the East part of town Saturday
at five o'clock P.M. night. He has
not returned. Yesterday P.M. your
letter written Dec. 29 & 31 came, and
the Devil was near Brightened up
at home. Uncle Augusta Walker
Aunt Rhoda & Mrs Crowe, and came
from her home in Barnstead to see
me. You glad & thankful, we ought
to be that the children are so well
But you say nothing of your own cough
Do I hope it is better. Last Thursday
George & I rode to the P.O. and mailed
a letter to you, and then called
at Mr Rogers's to work in at Mrs
Brigham's. Memphis visited on her
& Mr Burnham & Mrs Crider - & Sen Mrs
Mrs William Burnham is sick with the

[illegible] Friday, I went with George to call at Dean Barbe's - They showed us Louise & Robin both at home. Louise is going out this Sat. & Sun. & I will [illegible] Mary down in London. Did them a chance to go & Clyne Monday - I think is a very sweet picture. Sir Lafpord's two sisters are visiting [illegible] from N. Brand. Then [illegible] Trevelyans all over Xmas.

Letter came from Westbrook from Mr. Martin & Mat Miss Burfield, [illegible] Thursday saying that the Arnold name, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Nettie Dunbarton

Aug. 9 1860

friends so much better now - Mrs. Gaskell is with them - and Mr. Charles Wilson is to be married to Edgar in the month to stay at Sea & go walking by Sunday and can write a little - She wants to get a few Lemmons ahead before she is ill - We expect Dora Jones & Ada in on this Bill - and we have a number of calls to return this week.

Mary and friends Mrs Walker & school mate at Gainsborough; left Home this morning, having been here since Saturday - I have had a nice visit from her - had not been over before for nine years. We are having Extreme warm weather just now - I wonder if it is very warm with you - Miss Charles and Isaac will not work to-day - People have not finished haying there yet - but they have very fine days for it - Day after day of bright, hot sun -

Friday morn - Father & Mother both want to write

This morning George and I are going to return to see calls by & by. When we get home Father seems gaining slowly, we think, though he not able yet to study or read more than two or three minutes at once.

Monday Aug 13. It has been a dull rainy day till within two hours. It is now nearly four P.M. But at last the sun shines. We are invited to Capt. H. Cobb's to supper to night. Last Saturday we took tea at Mr. Gay's. He is a man who has moved here from Boston within a year or two. His wife has a sister from Boston, with three children, visiting here now. Last Friday George & I called at Mr. John Jenny's (Isaac will know) and saw there Mrs Bennet's sister the wife of D. N. Metcalf of Lowell Mass. She and two children were spending a few days there. She is a very pleasant lady. Spoke particularly of Isaac's father and of you - and about little Grace calling them with his father.

We shall start for Westboro Wednesday morning - cannot tell now Exactly when we

I all home Thursday, and I'm so glad I got home last night. I do think tonight did do me a lot. Trouble with two young girls" home at once - not for 4 "Experimental Lady" you till about - I'm full of skill & knowledge and abilities I have perfect confidence Truly dear that you are perfect to me and Dame and try to do more by yourself, as I get sick. No matter, I'm anything is not alone - let everything and that can till I get home - Dear I want to see you all - and get Nellie back at Fortress Monroe, I think - I love much they do need a child to be with them I know they did almost as if father would never speak again, or at least not Mamma for more - I cannot see this 4 yrs five minutes without crying, and day & the first day I should tremble to leave for new home -

Ever do much love to you from your affectionate daughter

Lillie —

Nettie Dunbarton
Aug. 12 1860

Dunbarton, Aug. 12, 1860.

Dear Friend,

I received your kind letter this morning and I answer it at the first leisure and do send it. Friend, if you are writing to me, I last written from you by mail, Sunday, Thursday, and Saturday of last week. I did not expect one Saturday, but of course now my glad to hear. George exchanged with Rev. Asher Day, the Baptist Minister of Keene, and he is a queer fellow. I should judge I think, to see. Theodore Lyman or Henry Ward Beecher, or Gen. Mc Clellan or Gen. Scott or Gen. Taylor one father or brother. I could wander all about the room in his boots to amuse me. He is very glad

on the whole, of the exchange, for all
people know now what sort of preach
ing they hear at Meare - We did
have a most excellent Sabbath School
Concert in the Belfry at five o'clock
on Monday night, conducted by good Charles
Ryder in an able & appropriate manner. It did seem good to be thrown
Hand to hand there, and read & commune
one with another in his dear, & loved, words
May Kindly visit call on Charles
Winter & pray and when he said
"will some one lead in Prayer" Mr
dear Mr Lewis Fildew rose and prayed
It was an excellent meeting, and the
Belfry was very nearly filled -

I must tell you what Father is just
saying about the days Preaching the
George the days it was this thing and
that thing and all sorts of things
& sort of twisted Nick Georges Suggestions
and for four days you, it was on the
whole - an extraordinary Revolution,

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] by till tomorrow -

Sunday morning - Received Lillie's letter
evening with Miss Mead's note Calling, and it
Sunday noon Reading - Yesterday George went
to Brooklyn [illegible] Evening Communion
Service Rev. Mead preached some Allegorical
Sermon upon Spiritual Letters & Communion
Service, and, strictly Communion & Baptism
Mrs Mead & Lucy at Church in morning
Evening Communion Service Rev. Mead preached

Willie Westboro.

Aug. 18 1860 Westboro, Mass -

Saturday, Aug 18 - 1860

My own dear Grace, --

Yours mailed the 14th reached me last night = the ten dollars (10,00) safely enclosed, being all I need - Good tidings again from all - O if I only get home, and find you all well, I think I shall be really thankful I am enjoying the visit - here very much - all the drawback is the lack of your presence - I should be very glad to have you know some of these friends & cousins better - We stopped with Aunt Lucy Pond the first night - Most of Thursday at Uncle Otis', who lives in the same house, and yesterday morning came over here to Uncle Galloway's, in

the edge of Northboro- To day we go over to Uncle Elmers-

We have ripe apples here - and all sorts of vegitables - squashes & green corn - Blueberries & Whortle berries. We have a good many walks and rides too -

About the shopping - I do not seem to have any opportunity to do it to advantage - We stopped at Woods - ter long Enough to do some, but I found that being a stranger I sh'd pay as much for things at at Norma Could I have an opportunity, to go there with one of my cousins, I could do well -

I had brown bread and hominy for breakfast this morn - It was good - We intend to get to Elysian next Friday night if nothing occurs to prevent - (Aug 24) -

Great love to all from us

Nellie -

Nettie
Sept. 4 1860

Elyria, Tuesday, Sept 4/60

My dearest Isaac—

When Charlie came from the P.O. this evening he brought a letter from Dunbarton, one for Charles from Albina, and the enclosed from Elias— Albina's chief news is that Mr Severance's dog had run mad and been killed— but before he met his fate he bit a number of dogs in the region, and Rover among the rest— Rover had forthwith been killed also— as the safest course— Charlie feels quite bad about it— Sarah Burges had reached Dunbarton— Mother thinks her very slow, but— I guess she will do well— George reached home safely— Hatty came up, while he was gone, to charge him

with being unsocial and to ask him to meet the newly formed Young Ladies Reading Circle, at Dr. Dr Watts, tomorrow Evening - It is to be at different houses each week - Gentlemen in the evening, to be invited, according to the preferences of the young lady who entertains the circle - Young ladies to read from three to five. & have a simple supper there after - Hattie wants George to take 'Mary' and carry her up to Mr. Wells, in the morning, to invite Hiram and get him to invite more gentlemen for her - I should think father & mother both very feeble from the letter -

Baby has waked four or five times this evening - so she will get ready to sleep for the night I imagine - It is about as warm

as any night we have had, I should think - I hope you will have a comfortable night -

Your own loving Sittie —

Pettie Sept. 8 1860

Elyria, Ohio—
Saturday Eve. Sept. 8. 1860

My dear one,

Half past seven it is. Children all sleeping—housework all out of the way. Sarah sewing in kitchen Charles & George here at the table in the dining room. The former reading, the latter planning a sermon,—all is pleasant within, but without the rain pours steadily, as it has done all day, and more of last night. We have had, in the course of the rain very heavy thunder indeed. We have just been looking over a package of duds, six of them, that to night's mail brought from Mr Keyes. I do not see as we can do anything about them, and we have been deliberating whether

they could be made out without my
signature when you get to Du Quoin.
There came one deed last night with
a letter from Mr Keyes and a Draft
for $ 50.00. Also came last night
your letter from Cincinnati, which
I was glad enough to see. Wonder if you
are safe in Du Quoin to night - I wish
I knew. But take it for granted you
have prospered. I mailed a letter
from Elias Wednesday morning.
George carried Hattie up to Mr Hall's
and brought Jimmy up here, about
ten, Wednesday A.M. Started about
Eight. Jimmy stayed till three P.M.
& G. carried her home. About four
Herbert came with a stable horse
and he & George went to Black River
- had a good ride, bathed in Lake Erie &
were back at half past Eight.
Thursday Anna & Hattie were up here
in the morning - I went back with them

to go in to Emilie, to see if she knew of a girl for me. (She did not.) and Wilder walked down with Hattie & stayed till five. George went and called at Mr Wilbur's, and in the P.M. on Mr Monteith - got his sermon and a chapter of advice, to the end that he had better carefully revise & improve said sermon, and proceed forthwith to publish it. We took tea at Mr Brooks. Mrs Monteith and her son John arrived the same night. Friday I found how the tomatoes were decaying, and went to work and canned four quarts. Herbert came up in P.M. and he & J. went to walk by river side Herbert here to supper. George back with him to P.O. and returned with your letter, & the one dued and letter, from Dr Lovin. Anna came up a few moments. Said mother did not

been well. wanted some blackberry root for her. told me the greatest news of the day, which was that the night before thieves broke in to Mr Evans & took $40.00 worth of silver. into her Goods & pants & took a half dozen double plated spoons, tried Mrs Cooley's and he heard and got up, frightening them away. Got in to her Parlor, breaking two lights from a French window, upsetting a Kerosene lamp onto a nice carpet, and carrying off something. I forget what. They tried to get into the Dr's got a window up in the Library, took out Anna's work basket, which stood on a table in front of the window, and they found it in the grass out doors, by an overturned flower pot, and her gold spectacles missing from it. Anna was up several times in the night, and went into the bathing room with a light, and they suppose this only saved all this silver. They heard no noise at all I believe. No clue to the robbers. Dr feels as if he wanted to come them, or take a poker to them. That was it, I guess. Everyone is sorry for poor Mr Crane. He says he should not have believed it could have been done without rousing them.

Anna well - wanted some blackberry root for her - told me the greatest news of the day, which was that the night before thieves broke in to Mr Crane's & took $40.00 worth of silver - into her Goods & pails & took a half dozen double plated spoons, tried Mrs Cooley's and he heard and got up, frightening them away - Got in to Mr Burks, breaking two lights from a French window, upsetting a kerosine lamp onto a nice carpet, and carrying off something - I forget what. They tried to get into the Dr's got a window up in the Library; took out Anna's work basket, which stood on a table in front of the window, and they found it - in the grass out doors, by an overturned flower pot, and her gold spectacles missing from it. Anna was up several times in the night, and went into the bathing room with a light, and they suppose this only saved all their silver - They heard no noise at all I believe. No clue to the robbers - Dr feels as if he wanted to come them, or take a poker to them, that was it, I guess. Everyone is sorry for poor Mr Crane - He says he should not have believed it could have been done without rousing them -

5)

Baby has done nicely Ever since you left and seems to feel quite well for her. I keep blackberry root steeped for her. Wilder has been about sick today. He seemed this morning to be threatened strongly with dysentery. I have been giving him the blackberry root tea and only a little dry bread to eat. have kept him in the house all day & lying down most of the time, and he seems better tonight, and I hope will really prove to be so tomorrow. Discharges slimy & somewhat bloody this morning. quite changed tonight. I cannot but feel anxious. did not know but he ought to have some strong medicine. If he is not really better, shall in the morning, will send for Dr. De Witt.

A letter from home the night you left which I told you about, I think — Sabbath eve. Ill finish & this that it may be sent by the morning mail. I did not go to meeting this A.M. Wilder needed watching & care, though he is really better. George took her

Christied to the Sabbath School this P.M.
I think he enjoyed hearing the class
He preached this Eve at seven o'clock
about as many out as usually attend the
morning service. I went leaving the
little people all slumping, and Lavern
and Charles to keep house. Baby, to
make up for the loss of her father takes
an unusual liking to George. She will
go to him from my arms, and stretch
out her arms to him, when sitting in
her chair, or on the floor. Whether she
mistakes him for you or not, I do not
know.

Nettie
Sept. 12 1860

Elyria Sept. 12, 1860

My very dear Isaac

Just nine of the clock it is, but - I must write a little to you to night. This has been an unusually busy day to day - Did I write to you that Sarah had a Shake Sabbath night? So I have since been very carful to have nothing done that could be let alone. Washing for this week is not done yet - I went to day to engage a washerwoman to come Friday - I did a little during at Annas this A.M., and took the cans to be repaired to Northrups, tried to find some peaches, went to Miss Reeves, and to the bakers &c - George took me in the carriage - Home to dinner at half past twelve - Then caring for

and Charlie. (Wilder went to school to day with Mary) Sweeping and dusting. talking with Mrs Mussey (H.E.) Gathering tomatoes &c. till four oclock. Then G. carried me round to Mr Jenney, and till Mr Brooks that I could not keep the S.S. Class and to the Dr's to ask him what should we do for Sarah. I gave her Quinine twice to day, in very small doses, but she threw both up at once. She has had diarrhea for some time she says Dr said alterative Pills she must have. Went to Jenkins & got some. Then home & while Sarah sat the table & George took care of baby I made bisuit for supper. Helped Sarah clear table. got baby to sleep &c and sat down here to write. George writing too, Charles reading newspapers I have just finished writing home to go with George's. A letter from Elias and one from Hattie Ely to day received by Mrs A. M. Metcalf,

brings the news of the birth of a 'bouncing boy' of ten lbs. weight. Who arrived there Sept. 2. Marie comfortable. Little Edith 18 days younger than baby May!
I hope you have received the letter from Elieo. He speaks of it as being of importance to him. Mother has been feeling rather miserable for two or three days, but said she felt much better this afternoon. Clara is up here to night to stay with Sarah. George and Charles enjoyed the trip to Cleveland very much. There was a great crowd and a great parade. 21 cars from Elyria. 600 tickets sold at this station. people to be counted by acres. Stature, very fine it is said. They got home just at nine. Mr Gilbert was up here twice yesterday (once in the A M when George was down to Mr Brooks) to see if

he could arrange with George to supply for him next Sabbath & he go to Clinton to preach for a destitute people - The proposition was made by two of the elders of the church. I suppose Mr Wilbur will go to Clinton, & G. preach here. When he returned from Mr Brooks yesterday just after dinner, he was caught in a drenching shower and wet to the skin - put on some stockings of yours - your old pants &c, and it took the P. M. to get his own dried - Shoes & stockings soaked pants could be wrung - collar decidedly limber - hat dripping with water, no harm done. It is really cold for the season We have fire in the furnace about every morning - Wilder continues better but needs close watching & care about exercise & diet.

Good night - Hope you are well & prospering in all manner of ways

His love and blessing & guidance be with you who will care for us all while we are apart - Lovingly your Nettie —

Nettie Oct. 14, 1861

Elyria, Monday Oct-14, 1861

My very dear Isaac

Yours mailed at Columbus Oct-11. reached us Sat. evening. I wanted to sit down at once & write to you, to mail this morning; but was so tired after reading the Evening Paper that I did not do it, & it seems as if everything conspired against my writing to day. The A. M. was as busy one as Monday forenoon is wont to be and this P. M. I sat down and just finished a letter to father that I wrote last week sheepishly and had taken my paper to talk to you and Mrs Mussey & Flora came & stayed nearly two hours, I should think.

Mother went down to Anna's about ten this morning. Charlie took her carpet bag, and ½ bush grapes for Mrs Finn in the little carriage, and she walked. They all go to Sandusky tomorrow morning. Dr & Anna Mother & Libby. Mother goes directly to Perkins, expects Mr Haldeman to meet her. Anna wrote to him & to the Mrs Barney. They do not think to return till Saturday Dr & Libby may come Thursday. Charlie has been a good boy. The horse Mary swam over, or waded over, the river last night. Charlie got her back. He and Gertrude walked up to the woodlot last Saturday. starting at half past two & returning by five, and got half a bushel

of nuts ready shucked - They are very plenty - they could gather them by the handful -
Last Saturday noon Mrs McIntyre and old Mrs Hutherton came Mrs McIntyre was out of flour & they were out at Baldwins when her order stands - I offered to lend her or give her a few lbs and she went to see Mrs Paddock to day if she could, but she had her baby and could not carry it very well, and wanted an order I wrote one on Starr Brothers & Co - signing it J. S. McCaly, per Mrs McCaly - Was it proper? Mrs Hutherton I gave a loaf of bread, and told her to try to see Mrs Paddock to day -
We have had no frost yet - beautiful weather - Holden says he is going to be very good - Little May was quite disconsolate after

you had gone. She said. "My father is gone and your Isaac is gone" "and he is dammuner's Isaac too" she said.

I do wish you could find time to write to father while you are gone. I think about him so much. He must feel very lonely & strange. Mother always waited on him so carefully, that he will hardly know where to go or what to do

No frost yet, but pretty cold night & morning. Have not gathered the Catawbas yet. Made nine bowls jam. very nice.

No meeting Sabbath A.M. Mr. Wilson gone to Presbytery. P.M. Concert in P.M. at Episcopal Ch. I went with the boys. Heard the Rev Baptist Leonard speak. A perfect contrast to Mr. Heyhurst. Seemed to have quite a faculty of interesting children. Regular western man I should imagine. Good night. Your Kittie

Love to Father & Mother

Nettie Oct 16 1861

Elyria, Oct 16. 1861 –

My Dearest –

Two letters just received before me, both from your dear self, one mailed at Cincinnati Oct. 11. the other Dubuque Monday morning – I do feel greatly relieved to know of your safe arrival at Dubuque You had time in Cin. for a nice long visit – I mailed a letter to you Yesterday morning – Mother and the rest went, as we expected, to Sandusky – She has Jasper Gates came Yesterday noon to display her receipt of Goods & to know if you would pay the transportation She had'nt a cent to pay it with. I sent her to Mr Paddock. "The Lord knows" She said, "I shall have to come back onto Elyria if they dont pay it, for I can't lose all my goods". She expects her brother

this week. A great tall ragged boy came yesterday too, and wanted to ascertain if Mr Maddock lives here. A Mr Mountain, Tailor, formerly working for Starr Brothers, now for Mendel & Spitzenberg came to look at Biggs house. Said he would pay 1 dollar per week, and pay at the end of each week. I told him about paying in advance. He said he never had, but would pay each week as above. I told him I would let him know if he would call again at night after trying to have him wait for your return. He said he must have a house this week. Three children - none very small I went to Mrs Gift of whom he had rented a part of the house just opposite Dr. DeWitts. She gave him a good character. Said he was honest & peaceable. Knew his own business & minded it. She lived two years

in the house with him. So I ventured to say yes to the Mountain when he appeared in the evening. I do not feel sure that you will think I have done properly in the matter, but hope all is right. I thought at first I would tell him I could do nothing about it, but he said the house just smiled him, and he should be very glad of it. To day Gertrude & I have had the parlor carpet up & shaken it & got all right again in there. Found some moths. The carpet had been down too long. It is about three years isn't it? Glad Du Quoin is so fine a place. I should surely wish we lived there on many accounts, - if I did not believe everything about our affairs is directed by Providence above our course I should like to send my love to all the good ladies I know, who remember me. I should

I read the evening papers all to myself. Count-ess Wachtmeister's book is very interesting. What does it mean?

very much love to dear Mama all.

Charlie does very well - rather a hickory nut fever, but I imagine it will pass away. He has to stay fastened Mary into the barn. She would get away over the river, and we feared she would get quite away. Lu Gilder advised to tie her up in the barn - so it is done. We have had not frost that was discernable here. Though the Dr. said he found some ice Monday morning on some of his squashes. Since then the weather has been much warmer.

I sat right down to write this Eve, and shall mail this to-morrow morning, so that you may get it before you leave Dubuque. Hattie has Miss Goodbury to stay with her, but it is so lonesome during the day that she begs for Gilder & Charlie to come & stay with her. They will go a little while to-morrow. Lennie Gist is sick & gone home. I am lonesome this evening. Little May is very good - talks about "my dear papa"

Good night, Loving, Your Nettie

Pettie
Oct. 31 1862

Elgin, Oct 31-1862

My dearest Isaac

Yours, mailed at Du Quoin on the 18th reached us last night - making us all very glad - it being the first we have heard from you since you left - The pencilling you speak of has not yet arrived. We began to be anxious - Didn't know but the guerrillas had found you, or something as bad. I thought of writing the day after you left, but concluded to wait for your first letter - am sorry now that I did not write.

We have had no trouble since you left - only little Mary has not been very well - has vomited every night for three nights, and looks sallow and dull eyed - Still she does not seem very unwell - is determined to

work at all hazards - She went
out this P. M. and picked up,
under the trees, three heaped - full
baskets of apples - I asked her this
morning if she thought Father was
thinking about his little May - She
said "No - he is thinking about
his Coal Mines." Charlie Rich has
taken care of the Sweet Potatoes &
hoed some - worked over beans
some &c. . Hattie De Witt was here
Friday and spent most of the day.
Anna was here Thursday - Herbert
& Jennie called this P. M.
Mrs Hitchcock sent for the grapes
& a bushel of peaches - left some
on the tree for Herbert, but before
he got them, somebody else did.
We have had frost two mornings
but not severe. The balsam &
cypress vine look forlorn, but I do
not see as it injured any thing else.
Sorry for the sick people out

at Du Quoin - Love to old friends there. I should like to Lewis Keys book - So would mother - but I do not know as it is best to buy one - You can judge best:

I'll cut out the latest 'local item' and send it to you - Last night Baldwin's Wellington store was broken into, and a large amount carried away -

You may not get this, but I thought it possible you might. Will not seal it till morning - so I can tell you "what of the night" Mother is holding baby while I am writing - She is well as usual -

Wednesday morn. 22, - (6¼ o'clock) We are all up and dressed but baby and all doing nicely - May did not vomit at all in the night. Wilder is going right to the P. O. with this - He says: "tell father that mother tied a string around my loose tooth, and I pulled it out

myself, and a new one is coming & another is loaded" — No frost last night — a cloudy night — E. J. Curtis lectures this evening in the Methodist church.

With much love, your own Nellie

Nettie Jan 30 '63

Elyria - Ohio -

Friday P.M. Jan. 30, 1863.

Dearest -,

I received a letter from you Wednesday, and another from Chicago to day - It does us all good to hear from you - Glad to hear from Mr Rowley too - Dr was up here yesterday morning - Said the watch suit exhausted him - He has not been well since Saturday - Libbie is getting better - Minnie has been sick too - has not been out of the house this week I believe - cold & sore throat, with some fever - She was up writing letters yesterday. I went down town just before supper time to see how they did - Mr Waldo got a small load of wood yesterday but says it almost killed his horse. To day it snows again - He called

her Waldo in this morning to see if he could do the pump any good. It gave out again, all at once, while Gertrude was pumping - yesterday morning - But her Waldo could not remedy it - Said he guessed her Lane would have to do it. — Yesterday was a fair day for a wonder. Thir came a letter again from Mr Keyes.

In the evening came an invitation for you & me to visit at Mr Hulberts this eve - Dr & Mrs are invited, Mr & Mrs Mudsey Ely's, Brook's &c - To day Mary Dascomb came over to dinner. She hopes to go home to night but I do not believe her father will come. The 'going' is terrible.

The children all make noise enough to be lively well. I've used the Liniment - for all of them. Mary's throat looks improving.

The dear baby's nose is an
exceeding bother to the little
thing - She gets her patience
utterly & thoroughly with it - I do
hope it will get better ere long -
But better her nose than her
throat. Wilder has just finished
his lessons for to day. Jennie came
over last night, and told him
about to days lessons -

This does not seem to be
much of a letter, but there does
not seem to be much to write.
This afternoon is church meet-
ing, but none of us go -

We had, I forgot to tell you, a
letter to day from Mr Hayes again
the third since you left; and
another last one from Samuel -
He is on two Committees - Commerce
and Public Lands -

All good be and abide with
you — so wishes your Nettie -

Mother Lloyd-Take good care
of your health while you
are gone - She has just got baby
to sleep — We are all doing nicely
and hope you are safe at Dun
Swain before this —

Nettie

Nettie Jan 30 '63

Elmira, Ohio
Sunday, Jan 25th 1863

Dearest —

Eight years ago P.M. — Was taken in the cradle, Dear King Scotty, Dear but Darwood Stein was born for Jesus Christ — Dear Nettie, I will tell you — Dear Nettie dear how is your precious precious heart today, well dearest darling well — I pray him a date with Christ tonight — It has snowed steadily all day long — Dear Nettie, I received your precious letter of the 22nd Inst. Dearest I was indeed glad to hear from you, dearest darling, I will pray for you dearest darling, that the Lord may bless you dearest darling, I will pray for you dearest darling, that the Lord may bless you dearest darling, I will pray for you dearest darling, that the Lord may bless you

[illegible] night to write to you
Expect you home Sept 1 or first week
in Nov. Yesterday I went
to see Mr Lawrence and his
children to day, & visited Mrs Co-
burn. Charley brought home his
books for him to learn.

Wednesday P.M. Charley brought
a letter this noon from yourself
mailed at Sandusky. also one
from Mr Hyde, and one from
Father. Yesterday came one from
B. Sprague to you about Herbert's
business matter, he not having
heard from Herbert since writing.
I sent it over to Herbert to day.
Father says "as to the transfer of the
money, I am too poor to run any
risk. Having no income at all but
the interest of my money, and not
a great deal of that, & having constant
outgoes, I feel the necessity of investing
what money I have so that it will

be perfectly safe, or I may lose my means of livelihood. It's enterprise is an experiment concerning which I know nothing, & its success is all in the dark future".

Father had been four weeks at Yarmouth, health very good for him expects to remain there for the present, giving another trial to the climate.

Wilder is full enough of life to day to be pretty well. is evidently much better. took a dose of castor oil last night and has used the alum gargle pretty faithfully. Percy's throat is swollen a good deal yet. We keep rubbing it with the liniment, quite against her wishes. she says it gets into her eyes and makes them smart. We have got a new way now. Grandmother holds her hand over her eyes while I rub it on. I have

written thus far with baby in my arms, but stopped to get her to sleep. Now she is in her cradle making a great noise about breathing - Charlie is standing by me - says - "Mother I feel lonesome without father" - May is rather pettish - She says "tell father I want him to come home" Charlie Rich is just bringing in the milk - He is going about clearing off the snow from the door steps - It has not snowed to day, but has been cloudy all day - I hope it will clear away before long - Mother seems lonesome and homesick - Tom has gone away and the weather is bad that Annie does not get here "Darkness falls from the wings of night" - So I stop -

Lovingly, Nettie -

P. S. Aid Soc. have an Oyster Supper at Elys Hall next Tuesday Even

Thanks dear wife - I guess he does very well - I have hardly done anything but eat this Christmas - as it is my last - I should like very much to have you here - We have a nice fire & a table & we have company - perhaps

Ettie
Feb 2 1863

Elyria, Ohio
Feb 2. 1863

Your own Willie

I am sitting in our nursery, close by baby's cradle while I write. Baby I guess is getting along well, but her nose is a great trouble to her at present. It takes her a long time to get to sleep - It seems sometimes as if she could not breathe at all through her nose, and it provokes her terribly She felt pretty anxious about May yesterday & last night - were on the point of sending for the Dr. several times - She was feverish & restless and had her throat sore - We gave her a little blue pill and a little Dover's Powder, last

(This is Mildred's corner)
Your precious

Wilder

Wilder

night and Some oic this morning. She slept quitly after twelve during the night and seemed greatly better this morning, and so continues. She had a fine nap this forenoon. Wilder has gone to school this P.M. He and Charly make noise enough to be well. though Wilder has Some cold yet. He gargles salt & vinegar. and little May takes Alum water in her mouth, holds it a minute and spits it out. I think enough comes in contact with her throat to help it some. Charlie and May are eating pop corn, and trying to save a little for Wilder. May has hardly tasted anything since Saturday noon, but seems to feel nicely now.

Have not heard from Mrs Nelson to day. but She has been very low, so that they felt great fears for

her life. Dr Townsend has been to see her.

There came Saturday a letter from Mr Keyes, mailed on his way to Springfield and enclosing check for $1000. Shall send it to Dr. at the bank, shall I?

Mary Dascomb to dinner today. She likes Dwight Rockwell very much. Was'nt he troublesome at one time in the schools? She says he is just right.

Letter from yourself this noon announcing your safe arrival at Du Quoin. Singular about Chetty's fancy for the coal mine. Probably will not last long. What does he do with his money. There is a chance for him to earn quite a pile before he is a man if he is steadfast. Letter too, this noon

from Eliab and Mary
dated 26 Jan. Perhaps I will
Enclose it to you. Must
anything be done with the
deed he sends till you come?
Mr. Hadlock drew some more wood
to day. A man came up to get
directions about making Hat
Stand. He will have to wait
till you come home, I suppose.
It has been pretty cold to day.
Has not thawed very much
even with sunshine.
They are all better at the Dr's
I believe. Dr was up here last Eve
to see how we all were. Charlie
Rich went to meeting. Said Mr
Brooks was not at Sabbath School
- was at home sick. Mr Wilbur
took charge.
I almost forgot to tell you Gertrude
is having her turn with sore throat
It has been inflamed a good deal
with some canker. She has
used alum, and taken blueing
with good effect. Did not wash
to day, because not feeling able.

Nettie
Feb. 5 1863

Elyria, Feb. 5. 1863

My very dear Isaac

I was intending to write you yesterday, but the time seemed to be so occupied that I did not, and now I have to acknowledge the receipt of a nice long letter from yourself, written Feb. 1. But you say you have heard not a word from home. I sent a letter to the office the evening of Wednesday. the day after you left, & another Friday, and another last Monday. I have received the fourth from you. You will want first & foremost to hear from the children. I wrote that I let Willie go to school again Monday P.M. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday were very pleasant days. But to day it has snowed very fast all day long, and

the storm & cold together I thought might be too harsh for him - so he is at home to day again - His throat is some sore yet - Charlie seems to feel finely. Little May's throat is pretty sore. Sabath day she had some fever - and yesterday a return of the same - We thought, for the sake of feeling more safe, we would ask Dr Strong to come & see her - He came last night, and she has taken three powders that he left for her, and had no perceptible fever about her to day - He will take just as good care of her as we possibly can - I imagine she will feel much better tomorrow - Baby is much better - Her breathing is greatly improved - Gertrude calls herself well again - Blue pill & alum gargle cured her at once. Mother is singing to the little folks while I am writing May has been playing with her

paper dolls very busily, and is resting a little now. Wilder and Charlie have had a flat-iron and ironed - on the floor, all the towels and diapers they could find. Emma was here yesterday P.M. - Did not get here in season to help us eat our nice little fat turkey, that we saved a day longer on purpose for her, thinking she was coming to spend this day! Mary D. did not come to dinner either yesterday - so we had it - to ourselves - Mary came to day though, and had some served cold. Emma has a severe cold & looks about sick - Charlie Rich came in at noon yesterday with two fingers bleeding - Mother questioned him about how they came cut, and he said he did it on the ice getting Guy Bond out of the river - It turned out that as he was going down to the Office at noon, just this

Lido & Mrs Knows he heard a noise but thought nothing of it at first. Then heard some one calling Mrs Snow, Mrs Snow, and ran toward the river to see what the matter was - found Gay holding on to the ice with cold fingers. He ran to Mrs Snow's door to let her know and tell somebody but he could not succeed in rousing him. Got a board, and pushed it out on the ice so Gay could reach it & drew him out by its means just as Mr Lamdon & others got there - Mrs Snow said there was no ice at all the day before in the Lobaco where he went in. Gay said "I'll never go skating on that branch again" - but I'm afraid he will.

I will write again tomorrow or next day -

Please keep well and do good and - we know you always come home sooner than you can - do I need to say anything about that -

Lovingly Nettie -

Nottie Feb. 7 1863

Elyria, Saturday, Feb 7/63

My dear Jennie,

I want to write a little this A.M., but must do it in great haste. You will want most to hear about the children. Baby slept beautifully last night. better than at all before since you left. The boys are doing well - only trouble is to look after them & keep them away from cold and see that they do not overeat. May we think is some better this morning. The great trouble has been, in the night, about her breathing; but she slept nicely the last part of the night, and her nose discharges considerably to day, to our great

delight - Throat still pretty sore, but not worse.

Got another letter from you just written yesterday; after you had received one from home.

Do tried I could get your name on that Bank Check so I did and he sent to for collection - He has received U.S. Bonds for you, very advantageously he thinks - has them at the Bank —

In haste lovingly

Nettie —

Good sleighing and we get along nicely wood wood - More snow and cold weather.

J J S. WILSON, Sup't
Eastern Division,
ST. LOUIS, MO.

E. D. L. SWEET, Sup't
Western Division,
CHICAGO, ILL.

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J. D. CATON, Pres't, Ottawa, Ill.

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By Telegraph from Elma C. 10 Feby 1863

To O. Metcalf

Children unwell not

dangerously But we need Your

And

A. O. Metcalf

Election Returns
Feb. 10 1865

Nettie

Elyria

March 18th 63

V

Elyria, Wednesday, March 18,
1863 —

Dear Isaac,—

Here we are all about the little table in the sitting room - baby in the carriage close by me - May & the three boys - It is just after supper time and grandmother is reading to them from Pilgrim's Progress, in which they are much interested She reads half an hour every Evening -

We are all doing well - Baby was not very well yesterday - vomited twice, but she feels nicely to day - Charlie wants me to say that he piled up all the wood Charlie Rich sawed & split to day - I've just put May to bed - You know she plays come visiting with her babies and knocks for me to notice her - This P. M. she came and knocked on the back of my chair, when I was busy reading & watching baby, and minded nothing about

her till I suppose she had knocked several times. Finally she raised her voice quite high and, knocking again, said "Knock and it shall be opened unto you, and here I stand knocking". Dr was up to day & I told him of it and he laughed heartily. He came up to find the top to his umbrella that Libbie lost off going home from school. She stopped here on the way home. I showed him your new book on Gardening, in which he was interested. Anna was up yesterday she is very busy getting Hattie ready to go to Ills. She is going to Cleveland next week stops there a day or two. Sarah Conners goes to Cleveland tomorrow morning not to return here. Mother has got almost a new jacket made for Charlie Rich & it looks nicely. I went into school yesterday A.M. and heard Wilder's class in Geog. and the B. class in Arithmetic of Mrs. Parker's, and a class in Spelling of Miss Smith's. All did well. I like Mrs Parker. She seems to understand character pretty well. Good night. Your Nettie

Office Elgin
March 21 1863

Saturday Eve, March 21 —
1863

My dearest —

Half past nine, and all are gone to bed But me, and I only linger to write a very little to you. I wanted a letter from you to night but it did not come - I got one yesterday, written at Indianapolis. We are all well as usual - Little Mary Anna decidedly gaining - I do not know as she really needs her medicine - have not sent for it yet. She went over to Mr Mundy's Thursday morning, with grandmother, and it did her no damage, that we can perceive. Mr & Mrs Parker & Mary D - called here Thursday eve about nine o'clock (after meeting) to look over our engravings for tableaux

for exhibition - They took four
to Mrs Parker's room to examine.
and perhaps copy after. Emma
thinks Lucy D. will hardly be
able to walk so far to school next
term - the weather being warmer.
She thinks she will walk a change on
that account - She had to travel
- a man with a big pack on his back
Thursday Eve, between Eight & Nine
He wanted to sleep in the Kitchen
He did not know where to send him
but Charley Rich waited on him
down town, & I guess he got attended
too somehow

Sabbath 22 March - I have been to the
A M meeting - Grandmother did not
want to go - her head ached - So I went
with the three boys - John Monteith
was there, and listened to an ex-
- cellent sermon from Mr Gilbert
said John, is to preach this Evening.
This is a very summer like day.

The warmest day we have had by considerable - Mr Philemon Bliss was at church - looking pale and thin - do not know when he arrived. Baby has been vomiting to day again - Grandmother thinks it is her teeth.

Mr Wilbers text was "Verily, verily I say unto you they have their reward" - All who reward they wished or would have - praise and applause of men. And this is exhaustive - they have it only for a time. then it is gone, and nothing comes in its place.

Monday morn - I expect you will be amused at my letter, for I have written just as I had time, and done with baby in my lap - We had a hard rain all night long with considerable thunder and lightning - It does not rain this morning, but looks as if it might.

Charlie Rich is going down town

this morning to get a few potatoes.
Mr Waldo had none to spare.
Mr Waldo has worked on the
Mansion part of two days
Our chimney burnt out,
with a fury, this morning.
bought in the Journal & paper
first - it was red hot -
I heard John Monteith last
eve. Sept - Salute Zuphune
& Triphosa, and the beloved
Dorcis &c - I don't know as I
have any of it quite right.
Mr & Mrs Monteith, Sen. are
coming to Elyria to live again.
Hope I shall get a letter from you
to day - I'll send this by Charlie
Rich this morning -
Lovingly, Nettie

Elyria, Tuesday, March 24
1863 ——

My dear Isaac,-

Yours of the 20th with the letter enclosed for Charles R. Metcalf arrived to day - The little boys enjoyed their part very much - Wilder as much as Charlie perhaps, because he was the big brother, to read it - We do hope you can return this week - but I was saying to mother just now that I would not expect you -

The Chicago Draft arrived - I did as you said with it, and acknowledged the Receipt of it to the C. D. Auditor who forwarded it.

Hattie Dr Yutt goes to Cleveland, Sat. & to Ills next week - Pity they couldn't have gone with you - Rollin too, is going out on business in July -

It has been quite warm since the Sabbath, but rained some yesterday morning, and is raining now again.

I am reading as I have time Spencers

book on Education - Rather philosophical in the beginning, but very pleasant & useful reading. It is, in some things, a book after your own heart. Some ideas about the value of a practical education in place of "dead languages" &c, would suit my father exactly.

Grandmother has finished the jacket - out of the old coat for Charlie Rich - The boy never will know what he owes his grandmother - not so much for patient remodelling of old coats & pants, however, as for higher and nobler good - If he only grows up, as doubtless he will, a good & true man, she will feel paid -

In haste

Your own

Nellie M —

Miss Eliza
Ware
Mass

My dear Father,-

It made me jump to see the nice letter for me from you- Wilder read it to me, and we both kissed little Anna very softly and told her father sent it. She has been a little sick, since you went away. The wind blew very hard this forenoon and when I tried to hold our Christmas tree, so that Wilder could make it stand up, I couldn't hold it, and had to blow a little ways with it. It is pretty warm here now. I was so warm, when I came home from church Sabbath day, that I couldn't keep my coat buttoned and yesterday we sat in the sitting room

with the door open, a good while.
This afternoon it rains again. One day Ida Mary got loose somehow, and went all about the barn and the Biggs lot - with her halter dragging, & Mr Waldo caught her and put her in the barn. I wish I was in Ills, with you - I try to help mother. I have piled up a good deal of wood for Charlie Rich, and Wilder & I helped Gertrude set the table - I am trying to learn not to strike anybody -
Wilder and I went to Aunty Jenny's to carry a letter and to Aunt Anna's to get a book and the rain caught us and we got our pants wet. O the flowers are out, but not a great many and some ~~little~~ red berries in the grove, but not very big. Your little boy Charlie -

Saturday Aug 20 1853

Dear Lucas,

I write you a few lines to let you know that you will be glad to hear from us all. Eliab continued to gain, and left by way of Grafton for Zanesville Thursday about half past four. Concluded to give up going to Cincinnati. He could not have gained much strength for he had eaten no solid food. but said he felt perfectly well. We tried to persuade him to remain till your return. Friday A.M. about half past eleven the Grafton back brought our cousin Lucy Barber who looks a little like Abby Dickenson, appears very well indeed, and

will I imagine prove a useful and pleasant member of the family - She is a very decided Baptist Christian. Brought us letters of introduction from the Sandwiches minister to our Mr Leonard, and I went there with her yesterday to carry it, with her. She seemed quite anxious to see him - but he happened to be out. Madam Mrs Leonard, and, by the way she is very lovely - I had never seen her before. The children are well as usual. Charlie Rich studies some every day, and Carlos Young is going to help him. We had a nice rain yesterday P.M. and all the night - Did it make you get cold to see us tents on such a damp night I fear it will -

Mr Gulick finished the funeral

yesterday, and it rains pretty
well - Mr Penfield called
to see Elias, about an hour
after he left, and yesterday
Mr Wilbur called to see him
& you, not remembering you
were to be away so long -
Dr. DeWitt says Daniel Bald-
win is home & Dr Cushing -
I went to Anna's to supper
last night with Mary Barber -
The Catholic School is again
opened - Cousin Mary sends
for me - You shall all be
glad enough if you can
get home to day -

Loving Nettie -

Anna says she is gaining
slowly -

Nettie
Aug. 30 1863

To Camp Cuyohoga

Nettie

Aug. 31 1863

To Camp Cuyahoga Elyria, Monday, Aug 31. 1863

My dearest,

Charlie Richie is reciting his spelling lesson to Mary Barber and Baby is asleep - so I'll scribble a little to tell you we are well, and wishing very much for your return I went to my meeting and couldn't hear went to bed yesterday - I gave the Library key to Mr Brooks - Dr DeWitt told me Mr Brooks seemed a little offended in some way about Seddon room. After Mr Johnson had agreed with the Building Com. I hope it is not really so - How did you get along the cold rainy night we have had? I was "divided between two" about the nice, big, warm coat you had - I was so glad you had such an article to frighten away the

rheumatism, and sorry that Elliot had not one just as warm but I hope he has not suffered for lack of it -

Since I began this I've had all sorts of callers, and now must hurry my mail to get it ready -

I enclose those circulars - they came last week - didn't know but you might do something with them where you are - A long letter from Mr Keyes, and two deeds came Friday - favorable rather than otherwise, I should think, about the mines.

If you can look out something for Charlie Rich a jacket I hope you will - And I should be glad if you would think best to get an oil cloth or a carpet suiting your own good taste, for

our dining room - We do need it.
Mrs Hayes is going to lend you
some money right away -
You doubtless know your
standing before now in the
C. M. Herbert whispered it
to me yesterday -
I hope for a little letter to
night, to tell when you are
coming - Every body asks.
I've had a busy, hurried
time since you left - good
many callers &c - but
get along nicely with it
all - Boys have been
picking up apples to day
C. Rich mowing & gilding in
hay - Baby & May just now
down to Annes with cousin
Mary - I see Proctor and
a team are at work to
day on S. Hoods Grounds -
Mr Parker gone to Camden to
Institute - Your own Nettie -

Nettie

Dec 4 1863

Elyria, Dec. 4. 1863

My dearest;

I received yesterday a remarkably stiff Epistle; nevertheless it was extremely welcome. I suppose by now, you are at Dr Dunn's safe and sound I hope. We are all well as when you left. Charlie & Wilder went this morning to the pasture with the animals without trouble. The weather is quite mild & sunny. I am going to give baby a ride down to Aunt Anne's this P. M. Grandmother is going down a little while. The plaster is pretty dry in the new room - seems quite firm - floor not yet laid - I am to have the next sewing Circle - Mrs Strong had a very full meeting this week. I went into the East Primary School

a short time this morning - Cousin Lucy wishes very much she could take Miss Pinney's place.

Yesterday we put the Bradley away in Gertrude's bedroom & then showed baby that it was gone - all gone, and she must sleep with Mother in the bed - It took me a long time to get her to sleep, & she cried a good deal in the night; but I got through with it - hope she may do better to night - I have written this with baby in my arms as you may imagine - but Cousin Lucy has her now - I went to Anna's with her a little while All are well there - .

Lt Jenkins address is

Capt L. L. Jenkins

16th Reg. Corps d'Afrique

2 Div. 13th Army Corps

via N. Orleans - La

I think Charlie R- will do the best he can with the cow- Little Charlie is crying with toothache again to night- I hardly know what to do with him- Wilder succeeded in going to Thursday night without a check but to day (Friday) he got one- I fell very sorry he did not make out the week- so did he. I went into Sen. school Wednesday, and talked with Miss Smith about Wilder & feel some better- I cannot help feeling anxious about Wilder- I hope we may do wisely with our children- I feel like a child myself when I think of training boys and girls to be good & to be useful- God only can make them desire to be truly good-

I must stop- Charley cries with his tooth, and it is sleepy time for baby-

Truly and lovingly your

Nettie-

I sent the Letter to
Mr Jenkins - told him
I thought you would
write from Du Lorin -

Nettie

Dec 6 1863

Elyria, Dec 6 - 1863

Dear Isaac -

I am sitting all alone in the dining room - baby and Charlie sleeping very nicely on the bed in our room - Mother & Charley Rich & Mary as well as Wilder, all up stairs - Baby has slept three nights now, in the bed and done very well - The darling is gaining in health, and consequently in spirits - She is quite lively - I went this evening to Monthly Concert - Instead of the old round of "Missionary Intelligence" Wilbur Lectured on the first Missionary Tour of St. Paul - There were an unusual number to hear, and it was good - is to be continued. Notice to day of "Dime circle" at Dr. Strongs next Friday Evening - I stopped to Sabbath School to day and, in the

absence of Mrs Boyd, was urgently requested to hear my old class, and did so. Quite a full school. Miss Eliza Whedon acted in her capacity as Treasurer, it being the 1st Sab. of the month. She will finish up next Sabbath.

I had a letter from Mary Dascomb yesterday. To day she had decided not to come here at present. In the first place she says Carlos is sold. 2d The roads are dreadful & the way long round by Cleveland. Then there is especial interest in the S. S. and she is just commencing Music lessons and joining a singing class. I am very sorry she is not coming. Shall write her to reverse the decision.

Mother had a letter from Maria yesterday. All well. Elias is going to build a ship.

Monday & many people ask when you will return - It seems to be thought that there is important school matter to come up - I do not know what - Condon Mary has been quite inclined to apply for Miss Penny's place - we have not encouraged it - not knowing what was best about it - Gence about school house grounds is about completed I think - No one has been here to do any work since you left - Mrs Mussey is still quite sick - She had severe dysentery, prostrating her very much - Mother is here now, but talks some of going back to Armada in a day or two - Miss Wheeler has been twice to me to ask me to tell you about some money paid on their life in club - that you had not acknowledged - I told

her you would make it all
right when you come.
— Wilders letter came this noon —
He was delighted — I think
he tries to be good, but finds
it hard work — May is
learning to read fast —
Give love to Mrs Keyes & family.
I suppose you will see Mrs
Root — before you return —

Very lovingly, your

Nettie —

May says she wishes she
could write a letter, and
the beginning of it — be — My
dear Father — I asked Anna if she
would send a kiss to papa, and she
put up her little mouth at once to
kiss, and then said "there" in her
pretty way. Here comes Wilder
from school — without a check —
so he has begun the week well —
Charlie Rich is still speaking his "piece"
for Examination — All send love
to dear Isaac with ever so many good wishes

No. 3

Dec. 10 1863

Elyria, Ohio -

Thursday, Dec. 10-1863

My own dearest -

The two ones all in their beds - I sit me down to talk with my pen to you - The children all seem to have severe colds, but are not really sick, and I imagine will not be - I do not see why they take cold so very easily - Baby has not got those upper teeth yet - They have seemed just about through a long time - Jo may choosed the second day school - I went in & mother also. Wilder spoke his piece very well, showing however that he was somewhat frightened - He got two cheek this week - and he spells considerably over, thirty anticipated cents.

The Calkins trial is over and he is brought in guilty again - and

is sentenced thirty days in jail and two years in State prison. The relatives feel terribly about it. — No body has done a stroke of work here since you left. — To day Mr Bezis brought a load of siding, and I think he may come tomorrow and put it on. The bedstead came Tuesday. It looks well.

Mr Wilbur was in school, and Mr Gates was there, and reported the absence of the President of the Board and said he would act as Pres. in your absence. Didn't make so much of a speech as usual.

There seems not to be much to write about. We all want to see you a good deal — perhaps more than that. Grandmother sits here knitting for the S. A. Fair. Anna is jollity, bright home now, till Libby gets out

Mrs. Emily Wilbur & Friends Rowe Mass

of school, because last Sabbath Maggie went home to begin going to school. The Dime Circle is to meet at Dr. Strongs tomorrow eve. There is quite a long letter from Mr Jenkins in the Democrat of this week - Mrs Parker called here last night - They leave next Monday for Evansville, to spend the whole vacation - I did not mention that Mr Bush was in school and spoke just as usual in his soft way to his dear young friends -

Please do you want Charlie Rich to dry up the cow? She just now a days increases her milk.

Here is Gertrude - with a letter from Almeda for mother, and one for me from yourself - just what I wanted - It was written last Monday - and you had no letter from me. I've sent two, and you

have one before now, doubtless.
Will We had a laugh over your Irish
curate - But you say no words
about coming home
There is a great grand child at
Brownville for our mother - a
little girl, that James thinks
is really pretty - born Nov. 9 -
Lizzie writes that the wolves ate
up two of their sheep not very far
from the barn -
I hope you are well and com-
fortable to night. O how much I
have to be thankful for - If the
children are not severely sick
this winter, won't it be good -
Good night -
From your loving
Nettie -

Friday - All comfortable this morning -
Baby sleeps nicely in bed -
Pondie Mary gone over to Jo's
school Examination - Willie gone to
school with little Charlie -
Baby sits on the carpet singing very
sweetly to herself - Mary in Sadie's
Rooms on the floor - calling me to de-
scribe them - Ivy Bessie humming
all the floor in mischief -

Mattie

Dec. 14 1863 Elyria, Ohio –

Monday eve. Dec. 14 –

Dear Isaac –

Two weeks tomorrow since you left – it really seems at least twice as long – Yours of Dec. 8 – to Wilder and me came today – giving us all great pleasure. Wilder could hardly believe that there could be for him another letter – "What –" said he "another, do you mean, beside the one I had the other day" – When when I said yes his face looked very bright indeed – He read all except three of your words kindly – It was very handsomely & plainly written. He will write in reply in a few days at least, unless you write that you are coming home – You say not a

word about it yet.

Yesterday I went to meeting & to Sabbath School. Miss Whidden was busy about the notes. I believe died not quite finish. Some forgot to bring what they owed. Mr Brooks thought he would wait over one more Sabbath, before sending for papers, to see if you would not be here. talks of sending for Will. Spring Mr Bazin finished the floor and ceiling of new room this morning except a place needing planing in the floor. He hung the blinds, but did not set the window out, for I could not get all arranged before Wednesday, and thought I would prefer to have the window where it is till after Society. You heard nothing about painting. Holcomb has set the broken pane, and said he could go right to painting the new room, but I told him, unless you spoke

to him to do it, I should rather wait till you return - The bedstead came, before the Bezie came, and looks nicely - Shall make a new tick, and set it up after Society - Shall not need to make any thing else new for it. I had a letter from father to day - He had received yours, and directed an answer to Dr Quin - I had too a letter from Cousin Frank Putnam - She is Assistant - in a Grammar School in East-Cambridge, Mass with a salary of $350.00 per year - to be increased to $400,00 after the first year - Carrie is still teaching at Worcester. Cousin Nancy said she felt a little disappointed at first about - the place in the Grammar school, but she thinks it is all right and best now - She is a dear, good girl - She sends love

and Mothers days" my love and blessing for the dear boy"-

Charlie Rich has been getting in turnips to day and Wilder helping some- It has been a cold, raw, windy day - rained all night has rained a good part of the time since last Thursday night -

Tuesday Morn - Quite a cold morning - The boys have been busy as bees all the morning writing letters to Father - All well this morning only cocold - Baby's teeth not through yet -

Loving Nellie -

Eleven dollars and a half

Dinner at Dr Strong's at Dinner

Pi Che last Friday, Evening, I did

not go.

Friday A.M. Called in Martin.

Charlie began at one quarter to

the twelve - He finished his

Examination Thursday at four

Mrs Jenkins
Mrs Hale
Mrs Kellogg
Mrs Weiler
Mrs Harding
" Noble
Mrs A. L. Fremont
" Carrie Fremont
" Jennie Hall
" Ada Hughes
" Lottie De Witt
" Lee Barnett
Mrs Chipman
" Newton
" Hill
" Yates
" R. G. Horr
" Herrick
" De Witt
" Washburn
" Strong
Miss Washburn
Mrs Hall

Mrs Mitchell
Miss Amy Porter
Mrs P. F. Whitney

Nettie

Dec. 17 1863

Elyria, Ohio –

Thursday, Dec 17 – 1863

My dear Isaac

I do not know as another letter will reach you, but think I will write at any rate – Yours of Dec 10 came Tuesday morning – Quite a favorable account you gave of mining and its prospects – hope it may continue I have paid Charlie's school bill to Lewis Brandall $2.50 – I got Dr to get me some two kinds of tea, & Copper last week in anticipation of Society one Lb. of each – in amount – $3,04 –. Yesterday the day Sewing Circle was appointed here was a very bad day – Steady Snow Storm all the afternoon, but – we had a very pleasant, and pretty fully attended meeting, plenty

of work to do, and all went off well. Charlie Silvers brought a premium of eighty five cents. Doing pretty well wasn't it?

Mr Edwin Byington died and was buried last week - after a few days sickness. typhoid fever.

Mr Bartlett too, died of delirium tremens.

Mr Pond's people are greatly troubled Mr Calkins is again brought in by the jury Guilty and sentenced to thirty days in jail and two years hard labor in Penitentiary and to pay costs. His wife is at Mr Ponds and goes every day to see him. She does not seem to feel it as much as Mrs Pond. Horace Pond is expected home very soon. His health fails and he is supposed to be in consumption. He has been to St Paul for his health, but has lost rather than gained thereby.

Mrs Pond says. "Trouble, trouble - it seems as if there was no end to it."

A letter came from the Adjutant General last night - The minutes of some Capt's Election in Lunenburg was forwarded without a date - so that no commissions could be sent I have done nothing about getting the new hat ready yet - Society meeting here this week, and tomorrow Charlie's school closes, and I want to visit it - but that is to be my next Lesson - Mother sits here reading - Charlie R. making himself a writing desk - Children all asleep - Anna has been up here to day - Dr came up yesterday. To get plan for seating the Lecture Room - I couldn't find it - think it cannot be here - hope he will find it Elsewhere, for they did'nt know where to put the partition without it - It has been stormy

about all the time for a week. She
does had hardly shown at all during
that time.

Baby has no new tooth yet. The
little thing has a hard time. She
is quite restless at night sometimes
and cries considerable. She will
not eat will, till she gets tuth are
through. May is quite interested in
learning to read. Charlie seems quite
fearful that she will get into the
second reader first. We have
taken no pains with her either.

We are all hoping you will get
home next week. Please give
my love to the people I know.

Charlie will go up to see the
cattle and carry salt to-morrow
I guess. Mother had a letter from
Albina last night. All well.
Harriet Kittredge just married
to a Mr. Adams of Cambridge, Mass.
They fully mean to come to
Elyria in March. And seem to
hope for the Bliss farm.

Great love from

Nettie.

Some of the ladies remained till nine o'clock
the day of Quarterly Meeting. We had a very
social time. Have not had time to write
much. Love to Aunt Ellen & all.

Nettie

Dec. 20 1863

Elyria, Ohio-

Sabbath evening. Dec 20/63

My dear Isaac,-

I went to meeting this evening with Charlie Rich for company, and heard Mr. Wilbur preach a good sermon on Annihilation- I did not go out in the S. S.- & I do not know about Sabbath school, only that Mr Brooks still delays about the papers for your return. This has been a very cold day, but fair, and the evening glorious- I say very cold- it was perhaps 16° above Zero. We all hope before another Sabbath to see you- Wildee is quite ambitious about learning Bible lesson- He was greatly pleased with his letter about the coal mine read it himself, and read for Charlie and May also- They all felt as if it was something quite grand to have

a letter all to themselves- I had a nice letter, at the same time your last came, from Mrs Root- If you see her please give her my love and tell her I was much gratified to hear from her- She seems to feel sad, and it is not to be wondered at. Mrs Jenkins says her husband is now Provost-Marshall of Brazos Island- with several companies as Provost Guard.

A very fat letter came Friday from Columbus - military - I have'nt opened it-

I think you will be pleased to note the progress Charlie & May are making in reading - I think they both learn quite fast- Baby is gaining now in flesh and travels all about just as she used to- I was almost afraid to tell you how nicely she seems, last when her teeth come to prick through, she

should have another bad time.
It is said we have more small pox
here - in the small house where Mrs
Jenkins used to live - variolois, but
quite severe. There seems to be no
fear of its spreading -
I wish you were to be here Tuesday
and Wednesday, to the great Fair
for Soldier's Aid - Perhaps it is
well for your pocket-Thought - I
do not know how much I ought
to spend - It is to be in the Court-
House - I suppose we must all go
and buy something -
Evaletha Ely is proposed for admission
to the church next communion
I wish Libby Dewitt & Charli Rich
were ready to come too -
Perhaps this will not reach
you - all the better if it does
not - I thought I would write
lest you should be delayed —
Good night - Nettie —

P.S. Front- Mrs Keyes send me some Photographs? Please ask her she has yours and mine-

Antoinette
Feb. 23 1865

Elyria, Ohio. Feb 23. 1865.

My dear Isaac,

We were all glad to hear from you last night. But felt sorry for your misfortunes and humiliations. hope you got through safely to Dudevin yesterday.

The folks all went up to Charles' to dinner Sunday as expected baby and Anne remaining at home with me. Mary went up to the farm and enjoyed it very much, and got very tired; but guess that on the whole it did her good. Mr Bradford came up Tuesday P. M. with a letter and little package to send out to Mrs Root. I felt sorry for his disappointment in finding you had gone. You will find time to call on Mrs Root. I hope, it will do much good to see him. We spoke of

people complaining some of Mr.
Wilbur's sermon at Mr. Dantz's
funeral.

Elias & Charles went over to
A. Brannan Jr. in Royalton, and
had considerable talk about it.
Elias thought he would give all it
is worth for it, but that probably
Mr Brannan would hold it higher
than his estimate of its value -
Elias is going up to Charlestown again
to day. Charles took supper here
with Elias last night, and Dr.
Brannan & Wilbur spent the evening
with them - came as soon as dinner
& Albina came from Society -
Mrs Pattenson was here for help to day
I sent for her to Mr Hitchcock's.

We got along very well with the
children last night, & Sunday night
also - Emma was quite restless last
night, but well enough to day - Mary

sleeps with me. Mother seems well as usual - I do hope all will be well with you - hope you will get home good sound sleep & not sit up late, as you almost always do when out at Du Quoin - even if you must stay a day & two longer to make up for it - Elias has spoken of going tomorrow (Friday) but I reckon he will not -

Will write again sometime this week -

Your loving

Nettie

Antoinette
Feb. 25 1865

Elyria, Ohio
Feb. 24. 1864

My dear Isaac

I seem not to have much news to write. I hoped to get another letter from you to night but did not. I have been down to Dr's with baby and Mary to day. I walked down and Mary carried baby, and Charles brought us back in the buggy about five this P. M. I called on Mrs. Darling with Anna. She has almost constant company. is about sick. looks worn & weary. Elias & Dr went to look at the Raymond farm this morning, and this P. M. Elias & Charles went to look at it and at Mrs. Arthur Ely's place which we happened to learn

by way of Rollin De Witt, might perhaps be obtained. Eliza like Mrs Ely's residence & grounds. Says he wishes you were here. Rollin De Witt said he wanted to see you very much, and was sorry you were away. He brought from N. York, where he has been for some weeks a silver plated coffee pot as a present to his father and mother. It is very elegant. And makes very nice coffee besides. Chandie and Jodie and Libbie have been spending the evening here. Mother is not quite as well as usual. Some cold. children about as when you left. I called on Mrs Saunders on my way to Dr's, and paid my debt.

It is about half past ten, and I will not finish till morning.

Elias still thinks he must go
Monday next. We wish he
could stay till you come.
Saturday Lonzo took well - had a good
sleep, and felt rested - hope you
are well and prospering.
Perhaps a letter will come to
night to tell me so -

In haste, your Nettie -

Nettie

Feb. 5 1866

Elyria, Feb. 5 1866.

My dear ——,—

The end of the day has come, and I sit down to tell you about it— The one event of importance seems to be that this morning "the dear father of us," as Anna says, started for Ills. She says too "Nettie—is the name of the way off where Father has gone— And is it not [illegible] to Lucius—

Ira Fields came over to see you

about some clothing - but
can't do either now so will do it
some other time as well -
Wilder & Shaw sent down
town and cancelled my letters
to be mailed and brought up
town last - and - thoughtful
reflection - two letters for
Charles and one for me from
Mrs Dascomb, only a half
sheet, but contained full family
items. Dr. lectures at Cleveland,
but is home Sat. & Sunday. Had
also a letter by the sailor - from
Lucy, in as good spirits as could
be expected considering the way
he sicks. Mrs D. spends the day

day at the new Boarding House
after the opening of the Spring
term - I wish we could go
over there before that - She
is in search of a good woman
to take charge of her domestic
affairs -

It is raining now - The boys
are busy reading - Lucy just
about going to bed - Eliza has
her clothes all dry - The boys -
I believe the pig must now have
had their regular rations & have
been well cared for to-day and
night - Eliza & Helen are going
down cellar now to take care
of the furnace - carry down water

Sunday Morning - All well - Nice Sunshiny

Bring up carrots &c -

Ettie
Feb. 6 1866

2. Adèle not go out to-morrow
this eve - baby was awake till
nearly eight, & not. Lois & Adèle
both make him some what
fretful - Eliza has had two
rat. considerable, but not
very hard - Eliab carried
Marien & Anna to see Aunt
Norton, Edna yesterday, & left
the, & Aunt Lucy & Aunt Mary
Clough & it - returned - Ba-
bette & the boys came, &
Jane went to see Marien & Anna
Adèle -

Good night.

[illegible]

I should do me heart & Diamond
and Black Coat a Sack of Po-
tatoes & Turnips, and it is a bad
one should of more Love
[illegible] the mind of
Heaven the Days —

Wednesday morning Baby must have
slept all night long. I hope not get
out of bed at all like Good Fairy —
The Lamb called out Hastily "Harrow,
Harrow, Harrow Devil" —

Lovingly, Nellie —

Feb. 7 1866

Clara and I had a good visit
about Clara, and felt glad
the letter from you about Ruby
Scobie came up too & could
be sent home at once with Elsie.
They were both invited to spend
the day with Mrs [illegible] on Thursday
St. Maria went with Mrs Ely
from the Orchestra Practice, & Elsie
down to tea & for the evening
visit & going before dinner.
We had a good meeting in the after-
noon, quite full - Mr Goodwin and
Mrs Gallup were there. The meeting
this evening was unusually good
Mr Foster, Mrs [illegible], & Miss Lathrop,
Mr [illegible], Reynolds and Mrs and took

Jeanie besides reading & remarks
about the Lord's great power &
love to children - Lois Hannah & Mrs Brooks
send their love. Charlie Rist rode for pony
Mrs. Brown's her little years
old - Jean has the Mumps, he was
sorry to miss school -

The boys have been very good
and brave, I think, & be faithful
about Bible - & Jean we feel
sure is ready & we would be pleased
to receive a "Yes dear father" -

Ma sends love — Nettie —

Nettie

Feb. 8 1866

Elyria, Ohio, U.S.A.

My dear

A letter for you and
a gift from Ind. He was all glad
except to see, [illegible], to say
nothing of yourself, have been impatient
for the mail. We have got a
very muddy. Clear in Logansville & faithful
Allen Lee drawing wood, Lydia & Rhoda
all day, Lang and all the evening - I did
not go down to meeting - I went down
to Dr Rhoads two hours & a half. Then & In
they Church Brethren Yellin are there
the meeting Rotts are unwell) and
in Jesus like that, Maria is not well
having taken cold - Little Josie is
fretful & thought a little fever &
to sleep I think it is Tooth, Double
Rachel and Mary Ann visited - He sleeps
nicely Thursday night. Mrs. is
coming down Thursday evening - She is
good, [illegible] I might a letter
from you [illegible] Charles Wilder Home
from [illegible] Stockholm Co [illegible] New York - regulating
of [illegible] letter [illegible] from you),
to [illegible] for [illegible] letter [illegible] Sunday, and day),
and he is going [illegible] Sunday, and day),
"If [illegible] Thursday, I shall remain [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
"that if you [illegible] the Stove pipe [illegible]

dear [illegible] to write to you today
If so, I [illegible] my time [illegible]
you will [illegible]!
He requests me to write, telling of
you — where you are, what I am doing
to be able to find you. I think
perhaps you will be [illegible] at
once, when you receive this. He
does not say a word about the
time when he expects to join you.
Perhaps I had better write to-night —
away, or get [illegible] Elias [illegible] so —

The children have been reading
Jonah to-morrow night, and
enjoying it much. Aunty Wilder
played one game of Chestnut —
Wilder Thinks he is doing well at
School — I mean of course —
don't know how much
gets it —

In haste,

Your loving Nettie —

Friday morning

I will send that letter to Elias this morning
I guess, and ask him to answer it —
We are all well this morning — The
cow is just a milking & the pig called and
is and all ready to take the bucket and
the letter — Charlie is feeding this morning.
Everything is snow covered — but it is
not very cold — Thawed some before the
snow came — The ground is hardly covered

Nettie P. M. - 1
Feb. 9 1866

Elyria, Ohio
Friday, Feb. 9. 1866

- My dearest -

Half past eight -
Mary & I sit here by ourselves
Elisa & Edward are gone to
bed - Mary went down to Mrs
Mrs P. M. Little Funeral she
found quite sick - I believe
they think it is Diptheria
- - - Harriet is better - Willie
has quite a bad cough - Anna
has undressed the little Fan
& New York cousin - Mary &

hope to will come.

The weather has been warmer to day, and it seems like rain. Charlie has been writing to you and Mary, and little Emma wanted to write also. To gratify her, I put in the paper she scribbled on. She took immense pains with it. She first took a piece of paper and then she copied it. I asked her to read it. So she read. "My dear father, I love you very much & I want to see you. Don't you want to see Anna? Good by. From Anna." So now you have the original manuscript and the interpretation thereof.

She has just waked & called to me to put a silver handkerchief" round her neck. So I have fetched a handkerchief round, & taken her up, and now she is quiet again. I went over to see Mrs Hodges today and in to see Mrs Arthur Brisp & Mrs Wilsons baby have both had measles. Mr baby is not a year old yet & goes almost about the house.

I do hope you are well and are getting on nicely. Love to Mrs Hayes and to Mrs Hart. By the way a letter came from Mrs Hayes this morning but as Ethel is to be executed [illegible]

Here is Talking Statement: —
I heard Mr Wilson and Bailey
in denial for the Sewage Outfall
Lines in Blendland & com-
mend Mr Ely in the meetings —
Mr Leonard is to speak the
next Tuesday Evening I
Responded —

Yours Arthur —

Nettie P. M.
Feb. 11 1866

Elyria, Ohio, Feb. 11. 1866.

My Dear Friend Isaac, -

I think I owe you a letter in the morning, and I am not sorry for it, unless you have one to do so - I have only had one letter written Tuesday morning since we parted - I have been to meeting this (Sabbath) evening - Bilder went with me - Mr Fisher preached - not very well - He seemed slightly out of his element - I was not edified much in point to preaching & Lutheran Sabbath. It was so many & Stoffey

that I did not let Mary go - for
last night it began to snow - the
rain changed to snow before
noon, and it kept snowing
by three o'clock. The wind
very hard indeed all night long
last night - came through the
roof of the little pantry room and
wet the bed considerably, till I
slipped the head away from the
place, and then it made quite
a pool on the floor -

Yesterday morning Lucy spent
the day here - Albina & Adams
rode down in P.M. and Albina
& I went into Dr's a few minutes
to see the dickens - Mattie

were better, Doris to be up and dressed. Eden on the lounge with chicken pox. Willie with measles in the parlor, on the bed feeling very badly. Birdie chuckled enough, and quite sick. So night I asked Emma how they were. She said Willie was all broken out with measles to day. Birdie about as sick as ever. Eden getting over it. Irving just coming down with the chicken pox. Willie gaining. Elsie & Willie of course are very busy enough. I do hope they will all get through nicely.

How thankful I should be that we are able to wait on

now, while you are away - "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow." I shall feel quite disappointed if I have no letter from you tomorrow - I thought I'll ... might be ... Monday might ... ...

Good night, my dear ... Love — Your loving Nell

Monday morn. Cloudy - The boarders left Evening - Sam ... me in Bath, Virginia & my ... - Anna crying for a Bath ... - I must ... Adieu —

St Louis

Aug 16 1866

St Louis

Elyria, Ohio

Aug 16-1866

Dear Hermit Friend -

It is nearly nine o'clock Thursday evening - the rain is all down and quiet - Except that "the rain and the wind, they make such a stir" - They are so noisy that it sounds terrible as if Big ones were travelling about.

Charlie Fitch came over last night and took the dear little home for us - It has been raining in the night last night, and has been raining all day, till about five P.M. Cloudy etc - Irving came over here last night - I sent the letter you left, and sent to the Office for you this morning - Yesterday morning - [illegible] and Cooley were attended - Annie came home with me, on her way to spend the day at Charles' -

We received no letter from home
since Friday, and feel a little lone
with no letters from home about four -
Grandpa's Provision for us and the cow
dies remained yesterday - We are
quite bountifully provided for.
The boys have stone from the quarry
in the cellar - two wet for out
door work. Mr Patterson called
here yesterday, while I was
gone - Came in and left a few
minutes with Eliza - Do not
know when he returned.
I think John took a little cold
and does not feel quite well
to-day, and he has retired
himself in my room, and Tim
Allen is very trouble some -
Thursday morning Feb 11th
to-day - I shall go to the
meeting this morning - The
Boys are busy down at the
Office -
Good bye for now
from your Sister -

Note

May 21 1866

Athens, Sunday, May 21
1866

Dear Anna

Grandma was here to dinner last evening, the first month of Mary's visit. Mamma came out Thursday, the 17th. I went down to morning meeting, and then to the funeral at ten o'clock of the daughter of Mrs. Cramer, Mrs Dillon's and then dined at Dr's and went in the P. M. to Mrs Wilbur's to dress for her, with some twenty five others and when I got home, about seven, found Mrs Zuber & Rena here. She would stop, till next Monday or Tuesday for me to go with her. But you probably will not be at home before the last of the week. Irvine is quite a nice looking boy - rather small for thirteen. began going to school to day. He is put in the A. class in the Grammar school. Mr Wilbur returned Monday afternoon from Mount. He came up here Tuesday but I had gone with Emma up to Charles'. She took dinner there & Charles brought us home about four. I saw Mr Wilbur Thursday when I went to sew. He said he did not want anything in particular - came up Thursday he thought - Rev Mr Hepburn called & both with the Rev Bowers of Ridgeville - O dear! The Lemon

Seemed like old times this confusion
with Mr. Walbridge sermons -
Mr Walbridge preached in the evening
and gave us real food -

"Prey dear" Mr Gates rides nicely
in Sabbath School. Also in the
three o'clock meeting of which
he took charge - Eliza and
Emmeline have just come from
the Monday evening meeting -
The boys do fairly well Thorp to
They are very full of play, and
of course want to be out the
time with Fences - I think they
try to be good. They take good
care of the cow, I think -
Emma seems pretty well
now - John is fretful on account
of his eye teeth I imagine -
and the mosquitoes have
spotted his face all over
with bites - It was very
warm yesterday - but it is cute
cool again to day -

Eliza has been attending the
P. M. A. Emma's usual place
went down to Sunday - Lewis
is a fine reader - I love to hear
him. Jesse has been in the habit -

& having pretty much Everything
he wants — drinks coffee & tea &c —
He seems very careful as of
steady, and disposed to do right.
All are gone to bed but me
& it is past — nine, and I think
I might go too
Truly & affectionately
Nellie —

Albina & Charles were here to night
all well. Lucy {Eliab's} fell down stairs
yesterday, and had pain & vomiting
and fainting Turns &c — & when
they were alarmed and sent
for Dr Alcott — But she is better
& it, and is about as well as Even
to day — Thomas & Eliza were over
to this P.M. Morning meetings
suspended since last Saturday.
— to be recommenced in Fall —

Letter

May 24 1866

Elgin May 24. 1866

Dr Lewis

My dear E -

I have now power of writing this morning. Have been out and enjoyed a plain walk with the Misses Waldron, long drawn out, of the very dignified and Mrs Young lady you have written about, or getting used to dullness and to leaving with letters. We have had a quiet Sabbath with the exception of the Sabbath School for Indians - for which I am for I am thankful they either have not lonely come up = The boys were greatly delighted with them - I am glad you are going out to the Indian mission almost wish I were with you but to this I should not have pushed boys for I am so glad.

Mrs Gunter shook all the nights
here and would abide at her pleasure
Sunday last - Perrin took his tent
from the Dog yesterday and will
be there for the present - His mott
is Unity that the Reds may for
him - Dr is not well now - was
not out at all Labrastle day but
is better now than ever - a visit of Billious
attack - This has been a most gloomy
day for - Every afternoon has been
quite broken up with them. Lord
Mussey was in yesterday and Lucy
Innes - Charles & Alvina for a little
Mr. Kittredge who arrived yesterday
morning, and who is on his way
out to Dawson to see John and the
country - not in very good health,
by the way - looks pale & thin - Mrs Gunter
and Emma & Charles & Alvina and Mr
K went over and took tea at Eliot's
yesterday - Murphy was invited but
did not have walk over - I walked

over Sunday morning and walked around the grounds, and might be again, and have hardly got over tired yet. I cannot see why I get so tired walking. This morning we (Mr. and I) have been working in the "fruit bed", getting the weeds out and trimming off dead branches and it looks better - but we cannot keep up the big planting rate. Mr. Ryan called here since you left, and blew the whole garden needs trim! Things grow. The cucumbers are up nicely - I sent a lot of asparagus over to Elsie yesterday. The church is being cleaned - Thursday a portable stove, and heat the water on the platform, I imagine for the "foot washing".

Helen has just come running out from the bedroom showing that she had combed and brushed out of her curls and tied a ribbon on her head. The young rascal

[illegible] and will do it [illegible] and I think Mary is getting [illegible] home yesterday. Thought she should like to stay longer, but [illegible] and go to [illegible] Mary has cared for Ashmun all the forenoon [illegible] of. I do not know if I shall write again or not. [illegible] I have written [illegible] from you —

From our town

L. M.

Thursday night.

Just home from meeting which was full & good. Mrs Gurley and Anna D. walk with me — Anna stays till Sat. Got the letter from you to night mailed Tuesday — I do not [illegible] why you sit no letter from me — I mailed one the second day after you left. Many ask for you. When you will be back &c

Good night — Nellie —

St. Louis

May 7th 1866

St Louis

Illinois, May 2 1866

Dear Love -

I was quite mad indeed in not receiving a letter from you yesterday, but your Postmaster Mr Hunter has been away for a week, & in his absence Mr Hunter would not allow the Mail to be opened by anyone else. I am glad however to hear that you are all well & that Willie is getting on so nicely with his reading. I am very glad to hear that Mr Hunter has returned, for I was getting quite tired of writing to you & receiving no answers. I am glad to hear that you have got a Piano, I hope it is a good one. Give my love to Willie & Mrs Hunter & tell them I shall be glad to hear from them soon. I am dear

[illegible] last night. It was the
second bath we ever had [illegible]
with us, and Tom [illegible] back with
them. Both children were very
sad during [illegible] when
they [illegible] Hyde [illegible]
boys, and it is really delightful to
see [illegible] They are almost wild
[illegible] with Dr. Tandy [illegible]
20th. We have had dinner and [illegible]
reading [illegible] Mrs. Others, [illegible]
Mayer [illegible] to [illegible] afternoon [illegible]
evening. Mrs. Lewis [illegible] and
[illegible] Mrs. [illegible] [illegible] Lewis
[illegible] in a great hurry [illegible]
[illegible] ready for a steamboat [illegible]
Dinner (Visitors) is not [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] showing [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]

Charlie is reading about
and Rein and Wilder [illegible]

Class meeting tonight
perhaps it would do Charlie just
so much good to stay and read.
Five o'clock. Just got John A. off to S.S.
Dear little fellow - how can I ever do
deserved promotion - He will do
more enough without me, God - What
ca. I ever do without him - Tonight
he came from his play and caught my
head and drew me to the little room
in our bedroom, and motioned me to
sit down on it, and then got up beside
and put my hand on his shoulder
"Do you want - to pray your cradle?" He
at once assented, and showed his
delight at being understood - Dimples
I know we will right to sleep, holding my
hand - A Ruth came down
stairs again - It was not known whether I
might be - or any thing with the
"Little Book of Words" Vera finally got up
and a pretty good thing, I imagine -
Walter is just singing "If you

Pembroke N. H.
Friday, July 20 - 1866

My dearest -

When I got here I found, to my great joy, a nice fat letter from Elysium - a long one from you both - and one from Walter and Chantie for all of which many thanks, and a kiss to each. Then came another, mailed last Wednesday - I mailed one to you that same day at Jerusalem.

I feel as if you would not come East this summer - I felt sad at first about it - But the more I think it over, the more doubtful it seems for me to wish you to come simply to see me - What you will come - I cannot say. I only know that I do feel by [illegible] the pictures you have [illegible] - Perhaps you will be so [illegible] Elysium - because I want a visit with him - The friends here want pictures of Lemuel very much, as well as the others - I had to pay half [illegible] for Mary from Portland the Newmarket - The [illegible] that [illegible] for her, in the long

A sharp eyed conductor came in and, after examining my ticket, looked over it to me, and said shortly "How old is your little girl, Madam"? I told him, and he said "half price for you Madam" — So I concluded I paid it. All mine very kind to us here — Fannie & Jeanne are both here — Fannie & Jean and Daisy have been blueberrying in the day — They are rather sad, as Ernest returns to Londonderry — They had been kind — only Faith & Nicaeous. She is enjoying the day here — Tuesday — It is a pleasant place to visit — and is so heartily welcomed — It is Evening now — nine o'clock I wrote the above just after dinner. Rev. Mr Porter and wife were here to tea. He is helpfully in the Baptist — home work. He is a Bangor graduate — a very pleasant man indeed — Rev. Mr Hill of Epsom Pres. is in Penacook now — third door from here. He and his wife called to see me last night — His little girl has been for a long time very considerable ill — She loves Daisy — I think he is rather fine looking He spoke of Enjoying your society at Good Fortune — would like much to see you As agent for Bible Soc. still — Says they are trying to have an Episcopal Ch. at Epsom

Have been reading "Ecce Homo" some to day
It is very interesting - fascinating style. I
wish I had time to read the whole.

Loudin Sammis can get a horse next
Thursday to take me over to Dunbarton,
and I must get one tomorrow, and they
are to anxious to have us stay, tele Monday
that we have concluded to do so. And
now it may be that I shall conclude
to spend a week from next Sabbath at Dun-
barton - not go back to Garmonia till
a week from next Monday - The Dunbar-
ton people want me to spend one Sabbath
there. I shall not decide about
it till I get there - Hope your next letter
will be directed to Dunbarton -

Sat morn - July 21 I intended to
close this scribbling but I must
write to George this morning &
I think I'll send this just as I
have jotted it down in odd minutes
hoping you will excuse it - This
is a lovely morning - The weather
has been delightfully cool ever since
we came here - People are haying
all about - Only about half a crop -

It would be very nice to go home
when Samuel Furbee goes only
I Expect it will be later than
I shall want to be about getting
home - I want to see you all

more and more. Don't think I can stay a very great while more. Tell Wilder Mary was greatly pleased with her letter. She will answer it soon — B. I can not tell anything about how much I should like to get little Anna & John in my arms — to say nothing of the others —

Mr Tilly has just come from Dartmouth commencement. He had an interesting time; but he said not one other of his class was there, and there were over forty of them, I think —

Lovingly your
Nettie —

I am afraid you will be all tired out with the care and keeping awake at night. It seems as if I ought to be there!

Nettie
Glendale, N.H.
July 25th 1866

Eddie Pembroke N.H.
July 23d 1866

Monday eve. July 23. 1865
Pembroke, N. H.

My own dearest -

Here I linger yet detained by rain - We were all ready for an early start this morning, but it has rained steadily all day - We could'nt complain, for we were in a good place, and the rain was much needed, but I hope it will be pleasant tomorrow for it will make our Dumbarton visit short - if we stay longer here. We have had a very nice visit here - They have laid themselves out for our comfort - May has been happy as a bird - So glad it rained & hopes it will tomorrow Sarah Tilly made me a long call to night - Twenty-one

years ago, she was my scholar when I taught my first school at Coggeshall. She has changed considerable since, as I have.

Saturday we had a nice walk and Rev. Mr Carter walked with us along the Merrimack.

Yesterday I heard Mr Carter in the morning and cousin Sam in the P.M. His first attempt at preaching. He did very well. It was rather embarassing, but he thought he must begin somewhere and Mr Carter asked him to begin here, and thought he had better. We had a grand sing Sabbath night. Lucia has a Bass Viol and it pleases him to use it.

Tuesday morn. Bright and sunny. So we shall start about seven for Dumbarton.

I hope to get a letter from you there —

Lovingly

Sister

May sends a card to Annie hoping she will get it — on her birth day —

Thursday June 21 1866

U. S. Hotel, Boston.

My dearest friend—

Here we are—fine
relief U. S., comfortably Established
for the night—We have both had
a bath, and feel like fresh
things now—We feel pretty tired—
I have to tell you the best part of
all, Sunday this, for dear Reason—
Our room is good size, Brussels, two
beds—&c. We have got through
nicely, thought we had an uncom-
fortable day yesterday—It was cloud
& cloudy but we could stay was dirty.
The four chief Reasons for Sunday
were the fine Weather Sunday
and throughout all the rest of our
stay—the dearest Sister I believe it
did not rain—Mrs Ferris clothes.
I had to go Shopping with Julia

a performance to get her clothes decently dressed. She had gone in the car where was water. The cars were fearfully full. Our section was reserved in the sleeping car and I paid for it $3.00: but when it was ready, Mrs Finn thought she would rather go into a common car and sit up. She said she never could sleep in a sleeping car. Neither she nor Mr Finn liked it. Little May slept in her berth very nicely and soundly all night and has felt better ever since. I should have slept, only I was afraid for my trunks. We were to change cars again, and I hardly dared to get sound asleep. But I needed refreshment. A lady got on board at Erie, who came nearly to Warren with us. I have not found anything for May to do yet. I did not like you that second time I wrote, in the night, to write to me.

redeemed birth, that boy & I of course
did not mind, and I take the conductor
to the person in charge of sleeping cars
how it was and he paid me back
$1,50 - Our provisions basket down
from much lighter - He heard
them say hungry - May days she
thought that basket would not hold
enough to last us - She "wished
we could get there, without going".
She does not like riding in the cars.
She says "Mother, dont you almost
wish you was at home"? I should
like to know how you are all get-
ting - to undress Gthem and put
him to sleep - and hear little Anna
say "mamma, love me? mamma, smile
at me". and see Walter and Charlie
and hear that they are good -
Love to them all and to Eliza -
Write all about the festival, and
what you saw and what you ate
and what you bought to - Love

with great love, from me

to you —

How do you like it — Oh, but we
you must, and as things go with
aboard the Invader Brent [illegible]
[illegible]

Nettie Yarmouth

June 29 '66

Yarmouth

Thursday, June 28. 16th.

Dear Aunt

Fanny and I have just come from the meeting of the Free Baptists at Gate-Post. We had a good time, and we all enjoyed it very well, and I wish you could be with us. Sunday and Monday we went to Fanny's. Monday afternoon Fanny and I went down to the place where the meeting of the Free Baptists was to be held, and found it a very nice grove with benches in it. Fanny Palmer was there, and a great many people. I suppose there were about three thousand people there. The meeting was very interesting. There were some of them rather rude, and some quite interesting. Harriet and I attended the Sabbath-School. We had to [illegible]

[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

Examinations for the Ordinal C. P. Seniors.
Examination of Juniors & Frosh, Monday 3rd Feb. 9.30 — Exit 1 Exposes Frosh room this 4th day examination —

You are going out to visit a little this morning —

Loving

Nettie

Dear Isaac —
Just got your Mailed 28th as I was
dressing mine — It is so good to
hear from home, and to hear that
no body is dead If you only keep
well, how good it will be —
Love to Eliza — I wonder if she
has made jelly yet, and how she
succeeded! Much obliged to Tuleda
for his letter. I think if picking time
do us good, we shall get the good,
for we need it. It is very warm here —
though I do not suffer at all from
heat. All thought the tremendous
warm for so early in the season
Kiss the children — Darling little
Don — I should like to see him —
Yours — Lottie

Fanny says she never has got a
picture of Dr. Hart Dr Hill which
was sent us from the Rock
at Elyria — Perhaps they will send some

A. R. Hammond

July 2 1866

Hurricane
July 2 1866

Thursday, July 5 - 1866

[illegible] Hazlett Place -

[illegible] I received a letter from [illegible] yesterday, first - after the reception [illegible] - I had an [illegible] from Lena, & find that day after [illegible] I received [illegible] letter, from [illegible] the next day - I wish to see the next day in reply - [illegible] - George & Father and I rode to the Cemetery - several [illegible] called - Yesterday - I have [illegible] not been at home talk with [illegible] Father is still troubled with his [illegible], [illegible] seems weak & feeble & exhausted - This P.M. is stormy & the [illegible] with it - [illegible] - Cattle, [illegible] - Cattle, [illegible] George & James went to Lena Lee's [illegible] reception [illegible] days there is always [illegible] one, usually a young [illegible], that is [illegible] of conversation [illegible] has attended [illegible] & [illegible] early, about twenty, [illegible] come.

Yesterday, Wednesday, July 4 - May have a few [illegible] in the morning, & in the P.M. George took Fanny & me to Freeport for the celebration. [illegible] Tribune, Times & Journal - Several [illegible] called in the evening - He was over [illegible] - Heard [illegible] - Music [illegible] - [illegible] in Dixieville Park. The [illegible] home for vacation [illegible]

[illegible] there for you - Do the
children dress & have clothes enough
and to keep Whole - Perhaps Eliza
can can some strawberries - She
may need some more glass cans
self sealers &c - Annie will be wanting
to wear an anything that needs looking
after - Two weeks to-day since I
left home - Give love to Eliza. Does
she get lonesome & homesick any?

Ten o'clock A.M. There was an
awful fire in Portland last night -
burning over about one hundred
acres - including the business part
of the city - all the city buildings - the
Post Office the Printing Press, three
Congregational Churches - including Dr
Cushmans, Insurance Offices all but two,
burning out of house & home at least
five hundred families - Large sugar
refinery was burnt - a Mr Chandler
called this morning who had just come
from Portland - His house was burned
and every thing in it - only what he
could draw away on a wheelbarrow -
The sky was very red in that direction
last night; and the glare sometimes
lighted our rooms - but we knew nothing
definite till this morning - A great many farmers
& people went to Portland staying over to see the
evening fireworks - They got five hundred beyond
their expectation - I do not know but I owe
a subscription, for I think there might be a letter

Phone from you - I had on Monday, and thought I had answered your letter that day to-day.

I have written this with little Georgie in my arms - I took him up stairs with me to tell me his mother a little -

I would write to the boys, but - I ought not to spend too much time writing, and I have written considerable since I came here - Ever so much love to all

From yours Ever

Nellie -

Nellie Sherwood

July 3 - 1866

Yarmouth
July 7 1866

Yarmouth
July 7th 1866

My dear [illegible]

I have [illegible] my duty
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
I have written [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] to day received [illegible]
letter from you. It was [illegible]
good that I [illegible] [illegible], yet the
letters [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] "[illegible]",
with it [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
I enclosed [illegible] [illegible] [illegible].
What a nice time you [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
all a few minutes. I should like
to [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

the Friends of the old Country to.
I must stop and settle Mary
go to bed

She is going to sleep on the sofa in the little room. Dr Symonds took his meals and his dinner, and had to be moved there until it is done. So am thoughtful of the pleasures of sunday &c, made much difficulty that had been moved, had to be moved again or were burned. A- burned over two hundred acres, instead of one, as the Fire being on Friday of the week before the Sale took place for the Pictures Prints of the Fire there was one on the 17th - in the night a dreadful one for Port-Glasgow, and the Boston Tea Party - Pitt, Fox and Burke constantly dwelling both to the disgrace - Public calamities are in Parliament to the relations and friends - Gurney and I are spending Xmas in the Mews Pleasant Prospect Mews &c.

I do hope little Dora will not get ill under Parental Discipline - I am sure Ann Peel will, and get a thrashing.

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Sunday morning July 9

Dearest Mary Scarth it is certainly better
for them to be left home; but it is low
work for one to feel much Energy
& decision when morning, noon
& night are same as to meal
times &c. Father is better this morning
George & Frances & dear Sandringham and
Lucy & I are going into Portland at this
morning-post. To tidy about & not miss
the departure of the Brantford stage early.
About going home - Please write when
you can that comes? George & Frances
Dunbarton Aunt Sarah Scot. in July - Burfalo is to go 15

Leave the Monday July 23 day and days two Then
and then the rest of the month at Dumbarton, And
I with Mary, Peter & Jeremiah on Saturday 28 if
possible but that says Jonathan planned that
Geo. Gilmore intended to spend the fourth with
of the sixth sabbath at Dumbarton, but they never
supposed that day before he write. He planned
planned to go up to go, but thought they would
be disappointed. If you do not get here that Sat.
I will stay and come with George the next Monday.
This is what we have talked over. After
that I am ready for home. I thought I would
write to Rhoda, and see if she is going
out to Elyria this Fall. If not we must
give her up.

Annie Yarmouth

July 11 1866.

Mac, Yarmouth
July 13 1866

Friday July 13 - 1866

Dearest, —

Yours of July 6 and 8 came yesterday P. M. It did rain over on you dear, and how it did not rained enough to lay the dust - dear I wanna - There walks by this day - The birds are singing delightfully this morning - Bless, a warm wind and the air so fulling that one feels languid. Mary & I have had a ride, and she is gone now with her uncle - She enjoys the riding exceedingly -

I know it is quite an undertaking to leave the children, the older ones especially I had thought that Helen perhaps would be permitted to stay with Charles, and Charlie, if he was faithful about the chores, could stay with Lorain some of the time - Perhaps Lorain might spend the nights with Charlie at our house, and Charlie go to Bro with him for the days - But you can plan better than I - I could

go back alone, but should enjoy
so much having you come, if
you can arrange it, and I guess,
with Emma's help you can.

Mary looked rather sorry & sad
when the last letter came and
there was nothing directed
to her. She is out of doors a good
part of the time. She has eaten
very little cake or candy. She
has bought peanuts several
times. She reads some every
day and evidently enjoys her book.
She has been reading "Pilgrim's Prog-
ress" "The Little Pouch" which I bought
some ginghams and am making
a dress for her, a cool one for
this very warm weather. Father
thinks there never was such
warm weather in Vermont before.

Fanny has raspberry shrub
that is very nice to drink, diluted
with water. The juice is squeezed
from the berries. To 1 lb sugar & 1 pint
juice, heat as for jelly, and boil
15 minutes, stirring the while. Then
bottle.

In haste to your own Nellie.

Mlle, Fairmont Thursday
July 18 1866

Fairmont, Minn
Wednesday, July 18. 1866

My own dear Steve,

I have just received your letter of the 11th & 12th, & it is like a good, old visit from you. I had written to you myself, but my letter never grew to a little size, & so I tore it up. I should feel a great deal of anxiety about you, were it not for your letters, & should be in a state of distress to hear from you, but for the fact that I do not like to write to you & leave you in suspense - & like to fully expect you to step in, & see you - If you may, & I shall not be disappointed if you do not come, I am sure

dread that is over for them —
perhaps it is only a month
very dull little, & dismal.
I walked at Dr Bowlands
yesterday — & saw the first
primrose — they are very fine
people I think

My anxiety chiefly if you
come for true would be for
Hilda and Beatty — for
Aunt Eliza would do well
with the little ones — and
they should be right; then
she would not know what
to do, perhaps.

It is not that perhaps for
you to come directly I am
home in June — I can be walking
enough to find myself alone
— though I do like — by it
seems I can have a definite
& private pleasure in your
coming —

Goodnight Father —

If you do not — you will
be down there in London
I will see —

23
1.4

Nettie — Dunbarton
July 26 1866

Dunbarton, July 26, 1866

My dearest —

I wish you were here this most lovely of mornings — The dew-drops, the singing of birds, and the delicious air, with the views that never can be surpassed, it seems to me, make it glorious — Nick, at Dan Parker's, the view is very extensive — Kearsarge Monadnock and the White Mountains can be seen, as well as the ranges of smaller hills — I received a letter from Concord Sunday morning on the way home — But I have not heard from you since last Friday, which is a week — I think there must be a letter for me at the Office but we have not heard from him, since I came. It has been a rather hard week for patient — Dan Parker does not well — This P. M. to the Office & I shall go to, and perhaps spend the night somewhere — There is a hundred bills of [illegible]

always is in summer I guess. I have one lemon, but I have some family & lemons - I went last night over to Mr. Johns Valentine - saw Mrs Burton and the children - and Miss Eldin - They are all well - Miss Eldin looks [illegible] did not know but she felt as well as ever - The warm weather suits her. The children look bright and healthy Sam went about two hours using a dull in Concord - It has changed a little - proved much - Miss Clarke House and New Business College buildings greatly improvements in residences - I enjoyed the visit very much -

But after all, I think I feel a little homesick - I do long to see you again - Two daughters of Rev. and Mrs Parker Dr. Sunday Evening - A sister of Mrs Parker and two lady acquaintances one from New York and one from near Hartford - I suppose if you do not come to Seattle for some time I could go to Hartford to see Hattie - I suppose I ought to write to her as she must not be expecting - I may go back to Yarmouth Saturday cannot tell yet -

Your own Nellie —

It is little Annie's birthday - All the children [illegible] hundreds of times a day -

Nettie Dunbarton July 30 1866

Dunbarton Sabbath July 29 - 1866

Dearest -

Monday morn— 5 Dclock A.M. Morning— I should have started for Yarmouth Today only Mary's hand was left at Dr Martins and they forgot to bring it— Meeting Sunday day, and I have to wait to day to get it— Mrs Williams Whitefield is coming for me after dinner and she will take me to Mrs Ryders, and Charles Ryder will take me to John Kimballs to night— He [illegible] Charles Ryder to Meet us— from his house but down of any things one at Johns Kimballs— It's a little unpleasant to all as his pleasant & is total about us this day— but I enjoy any thing pleasant—

But I begin to be impatient to go home— It seems as though I could hardly wait— I despise to I must stay and do [illegible] a little more— They want me to go to Westbrook; but I think I cannot. I feel as though I ought to go to Yarmouth, for I thought the Advent here [illegible] meeting to day — or — but I think I have [illegible] I want to see you— The [illegible] are [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Nettie. Yarmouth
Aug. 1 1866

Yarmouth
Wednesday, Aug 1. 1866

My own Heart;-

I reached here with little Gray yesterday P.M. after almost two weeks absence in N.Y. I really had a very fine visit, though surrounded and dominated by Evil one. I have only to report in reference to our Festival I last evening started going with him to visit Mrs. I do want to love Mrs. very much but I cannot think of understanding it now. I am ashamed of myself. But I have no more strength and power of Endurance. O- George K. Gurney with Mrs. I may be

[illegible] Sat. this in an excellent
Hospital and enjoys herself
much, but will be delighted
to start for home. She longs to
see you all. I found three
four letters from yourself, one
from Blanche, one from Samuel
and one from Hattie Taylor.
I suppose I must write to-day
now, that she need not spoil
her dear eye - for if you see no
more it will not be matter
of surprise to you, on the whole
however I think it proved by
last letter return with Samuel
[illegible] Mrs Hayes in his
letter that he shall stay for
H. H. and Boston by last of Sept
week. I do not mean that
[illegible] means to stop in Boston or
not. I have written Mrs Hayes

I went about it, and shall
hear soon I suppose.
[illegible] a restful looking
[illegible] from Dundarave.
I deserved much credit
for writing at all! for it was
such a busy hurried time -
I waited one day for Mary's shawl
she was left at Deer Park -
I spent two nights at Capt. Whyte's
& they seemed to enjoy it much
& I was glad to go to the
burying ground, and Mary saw
the dear little Brothers graves -
I felt inclined to be the "great reason"
why I wanted to go to Dundarave
& she has just been here & so. That
I took care of Georgie while
[illegible] & Fanny minded under
Georgie's coat - "And I must say
mother" she says "I got rather tired".
Georgie is sleeping now - He is very well -

Monday morning I rode up with Dea Burnham to Proctor Hammond's and while I called this boy went over to Dea's and got the sleigh. Proctor is sick, and Corba sad and discouraged - has had very poorly children - I expect to walk in to Cabot with Mrs Hammond in the morning, but turns out Hammond insists on harnessing the horse to take me back, and while we stopped at Burnhams, he would come out. Agreed with Mr Trenholm's horse and sleigh for me - said she didn't know that I ever run away with Mr Burnham. So I rode back with him and called at Mr Eggs and Howells, and, after dinner Mrs Whipple came and carried me to Charles Ryders where I took supper - and called at Harris and then Charles took me back to John Kimballs - Tuesday morning John Kimball took us to Barnet Center and got us nicely started in the cars - We got on splendidly - nice young and all right - and found Will, and feast of letters when we got here - Louie Abby Hutchinson & Charlie is to spend next Wednesday night here, with her husband - They have gone to Montreal & Quebec for a summer trip. I wish I had another picture or two of Willie John also of little Emma (on back I wish I had some of the older boys - I left a picture of John with Aunt Emma) Proctor Hammond has

the other. I could not well help leaving it - They wanted it very - and at once I sent one of mine little girl in exchange - So now I have none - has for Father -

It seems to Friends does not refuse to preach for you - I shall want to know the result very much - I rejoice to hear of your good prayer meetings - for we is feeling stupid and not in a mood for sermonizing - I am sorry he is not stronger - Warm weather and study do not seem to be for him - His good Dr. Wells him to Epsom - I fear he does not like to move from his Home - I guess he will go Bangor way for vacation - Fanny wants to go home -

I am glad Elsie gets along so well and that the boys are so good - Grandpa has a nice book for me to take to - To each of them - "The Bobbin Boy" and "Young Folks of the Declaration of Independence" - It is about twelve and I must stop - I had also forgotten to thank you for the check - I do not know but we may ride in to Portland this P.M. not get it cashed - I do not think I shall want any more - can tell better after going in

Portland - I thought I might buy a double shawl if I found I could get one reasonably - for he has nothing for full dress, and for his sake nothing I want to get so much handsome present for Fanny - I gave $2.00 to Uncle Rufus Cooper to buy a book she wanted & he could find in Concord -

Well, I must stop —

Your own loving Alice

Mrs. Stearns
Aug. 1 1866

"Nettie" Yarmouth
Aug. 3d 1866

Yarmouth, Aug. 3. 1866

Fitch
Fairmount
Aug. 8 1866

Fairmount, Maine
Wednesday, Aug 8 - 1866 -

My Dearest -

I did mean yesterday morning to write to you, but concluded to delay until to day thinking I might hear from Samuel in the mean time, and so have something definite to tell about going home; But no letter has come yet - I think I mailed the last letter to you Friday, and received the last from you Saturday - That day I had two miserables one in the A.M. and one in P.M. and I forth Fairmount - and then down by the Kennebec with George - We got with a satisfactory out on a point - where we had a fine view of the surrounding country

and Royalls as they sculpted, and the boy - It was a high point and the view was very fine up and down the coast. Sabbath day heard George preach twice - The afternoon sermon I thought was excellent & and appropriate to the time - Duty a Christian patriot duty to his country - serving his country now. he thought was serving his God. Text - "Render unto Caesar" &c. George was not satisfied with the text, thought his sermon did not really & naturally flow from it, but could not find any more appropriate -

Monday I had another nice visit, and early in the morning Dr Burdick made a long call and left us an invitation to spend Wednesday afternoon at his. Father and all of us are going - He is a grand old man. His daughter called in the evening She was on her way to a grand festival of the Good Templars. It was good across

the street from here. She went by invitation, to visit George & Fanny. I didn't care to go, so I stayed with the sleeping children. Mary is always a little discontented without me. I left them at Mrs Kimball's in Dumbarton to go to make calls, and when I came back they said she was homesick. But then I went up to bed with her she said "I guess it wasn't homesick, it was only mothersick" — Yesterday the Mr Lord of North Yarmouth and his wife and daughter visited here. We had a nice time with them. He has travelled much & knows about Egypt & Palestine. Likes liberties. Spirit of Scotch. There — His daughter Julia Lord, is teacher of the Senior Department in a School of School in Washington. Five hundred fifty pupils. Seventy eight in her department. Ten teachers in all with a Superintendent. She brought home a bright, sprightly colored girl

a few months Vacation till Sept. She is fine looking, and quite interesting.

The weather now is cool and fine. Father has a fire in his room, morning, but the rest of us do not need it.

I feel much better. Have been feeling almost well for a week or two. I feel I think May improved. She is in fine spirits and imagines herself in Heaven. Would give the world, if possible, for a comfort, such as we feel perfectly at home.

Paul & Fisher is the gentleman who Rear and I am to live home. I hope I shall hear from you as regularly as you do from me.

Affectionately yours

Jeff.

Yarmouth, Maine.
Thursday, Aug. 9 - 1866 -

Dear Isaac -

I wrote yesterday, but have since received a letter from you and one from Samuel. I was feeling quite anxious to hear from home. The letter was longer on the way than do we have been. I suppose I had better wait and go home with Samuel now; but I thought he would go next week. He says he shall leave Boston for the west - the first of next week, and will write to me next week to tell me just what day to come to Boston & he will meet me at the depot.

Father and George seem very glad of the additional week I have

By this arrangement to stay here - and we are really enjoying very much - The weather is cool and fine - Yesterday we visited with Dr Burbank and had a nice time - I do like them - Miss Esther is a very noble girl - Quite intellectual and very musical - fine singer and has a large class of Piano scholars.

To-day we are invited to Mr Arad Loring's - He is George's most intimate friend here, and a fine man. He lives in the house where mother died. Friday we expect some young company - Miss Anna Burbank and a cousin from Portland -

Father has just had a letter from Herbert & Jenny - It seems Herbert is building on his new land and has given up his shop entirely - Father is pretty comfortable but still has his old trouble and very little strength -

Give love to Mary, and to all
the children - Will do so long
as I see you, and be at home again.
If I had not written to Samuel
that I would wait for him
I do not know but I should
start alone might with - but
perhaps it is all well as it
is - And I do think O. and
I are both in better health
than when we left home -

Lovingly

Hettie —

Title Garments
Aug. 1866

Private

Jan. 11 1866

Private

Jan. 11 1866

My dear [illegible]

I have just been
receiving a message [illegible] of the U. States
and it recommends [illegible] pardon [illegible]
[illegible] to President Johnson
Andrew Johnson to the Executive Clemency
Pardon [illegible] [illegible]
and declaring [illegible]
[illegible] Johnson
as he would have [illegible] Greenbacks
Some speculators [illegible] [illegible]
Secret Service Bureau.

I think I must [illegible] you [illegible] morning
before [illegible] [illegible] letter, for you
are probably [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] and [illegible] for you
[illegible] in front Pew right
and East-wall - I hope the good Lord
pray about it - We know as little what
is best for us -

Lucy is out in the garden with little
Georgie - She longs to see Hannah & father
as well as I do - She has been
writing to Hannah, but I fear it
is "too precious" to send - I have had
a half dozen pretty pressed flowers
received, chiefly from Hannah & Lucy
Expended $2,50 - I do not know as it
was best to do it, - but some of the
people there were anxious for
them, and father had moved, so
I opened to keep for them & put
[illegible] get them [illegible] - I have
sent one to Preston Hammond &
Lewis Bird, and to Capt. Whipple
& Dea Carter - I long to come with
for a dress for myself in Portland
& E.P. - but, am afraid I must [illegible]

Dear Yarmouth
Aug. 14. 1866

Yarmouth, Maine —
Tuesday, Aug. 14, 1866 —

My dear Isaac, —

This is washing day and I have been trying to help a little sweeping and looking after things &c and came near forgetting that I intended to write to you — Yesterday came a letter from Samuel saying that I might come to Boston by the morning train next Monday It leaves about Eight — I believe — then we can be in Boston Monday night I suppose — He says they will stop one night at Groton at a Mr Bisco and had written to them that I should be with them — I suppose I might stop at Westboro' post as well and let you know by letter when I shall

would be with Ben and with friends.

Father seems quite unwell at this writing. Mother is [illegible] worried. Sister Jessie is worried with his trouble. He feels quite discouraged at times, but never seems gloomy at all - usually in very good spirits. George is gone for a day or two, he attends our Sabbath School. Edward George is making his vacation. He is not able to study much. The weather is delightful. not very warm, but sunny and bright. Mary and I went yesterday down to the woods in the River and had a good time. Mary thought it was splendid. Ella is playing now with George. The little skate He put my parasol into a pitcher of water this morning. but I guess it is not injured. It is hard to find enough for him to do.

I wish you could meet us in Savannah, and do you [illegible] Then

Sel. a Dorne carpet for our dining
room. We might cover it as
our bedroom is covered, with oil
cloth round the outside. What do
you think about it?
I suppose we shall get home next
Wednesday. And I think we
shall both be glad to be home since
we left, notwithstanding we have
so much enjoyed seeing dear
friends here. I cannot help wishing
we were near each other.
Only George & father and me, and
we can do as we please. I wish
I could leave them without saying
good bye. I dread it.
Perhaps I may not write again
we shall be quite busy. have some
calls to make, and I have some
mending & do for father. and do
not know but I may have my
dress fitted &c.
We received the "Evening Post"

Nellie Yarmouth

Aug. 16 1864

Yarmouth —

Thursday Aug 16 - 1864

Dearest

How good you are to write
so often! I do thank you very much
indeed — Last week I had five letters
or rather four, the fifth came
this week, yesterday — and by today
came one marked the 12th —
I should love to see Mary Thurston
but do not think it best for her to go
so now — can write her when I get
home — So Hattie Gaylord is to come
to Skyria — travel for Dimon under,
She has a good girl, so I hear
she can leave —

I should have liked much to
hear your sermon, I have heard — Nathalie
I am very glad the family are

not leave at once. -

I do not understand why Samuel wrote to Percy that he should come this week. Though I did myself infer that, from one of his letters to me. I have written you since he wrote to me, decidedly about the time - and probably you will know before this will reach you that I am to leave Jamestown next Monday to meet them in Boston. And they are to stop one night in Croydon - so I suppose, if we have no hinderance, we shall be home Wednesday — You cannot be very busy and it seems as if you must need me. Though I may miscalculate my own importance sometimes. -

Love from all - Georgie is glad of the peaches - He can remember as well as any body

Mary seems in fine spirits -
Thought she and I both were
longing to be home, and see
you all - It rained all day
yesterday, and both girls had to stay
in all day to-day - George has
not yet come from the Mines
Yet - We were invited to visit
Jesterday, but did not because
she was not here - shall go
Saturday instead - to hear
Loring's - The wealthy widow
lady - We had several callers
yesterday spite of rain & clouds -
One lady brought Fanny some
fine looking balls of butter
and one brought us 12 yds of
flannel - for dress -
Will Ferry be with us at
Easter will be ready for
Samuel & wife I suppose -
Do they have letter go right to
Our house -
Lovingly Nettie -

Saratoga, Nov 5. 1872

Dear Eddie -

You know in my prayers I plead to live for Christ. I do want to see you Christ-like Sweet-full of His Spirit - May your heart be filled with His love, and may all around you see that it is so. I wish you would try to think of ways in which you may show this new love in your heart to those around you. One way certainly is by being more gentle and kind at home, and at school and wherever you come with others - And also by being firm as a rock for the right, and against the wrong - Show that you know what you believe as well as in whom you believe - My heart leaps at the thought that you may, by daily living, Study up,

Xenia, Ohio —
Monday, Dec. 16. 1867.

My very dear Albinus,

Long ago did I intend to write to you; but many things have conspired to deter me. I really cannot tell when I did write to you, or whether I have written since you wrote to me. We have been quite busy of late as you may suppose. We moved into our house the 26 Nov. All our furniture has arrived at last, and we begin to feel quite at home, and as happy as we could Expect to be. Long, dark shadows have fallen across our way, and life can never seem to us as once it did. A cloud of sorrow comes over us sometimes

[illegible] you write me every time you write. Do write often. I am so glad to hear from you. Tell me about your [illegible] and all the news. Have you seen Frank Hamilton lately? Tell him to write me. I am so glad to hear from you. Tell me about your [illegible] and all the news. Have you seen Frank Hamilton lately? Tell him to write me.

with a most crushing weight; but we feel that we have much to be thankful for. Little Wilder is very well & fat - and happy. He has only six teeth - says a few words and has taken a few steps alone. Seems to be just about as strong now as both were before being taken sick. He is not so forward in talking now, as Willie was then. It would do you good to look at his little fat, laughing face. O how I should love to see you and your dear ones. I wonder if you are very busy these days. Do write and tell me what you are about - and if you are well and happy. How much has happened since we saw each other. O how merciful it is that we do not know what is to happen

to us beforehand. We have been feeling very anxious about Mother (as doubtless you & Charles have) for more than a week. But the last news encouraged us very much and we hope to hear next that she is gaining fast. She must have had a very severe sickness. I hope she may be even better now than before she was sick. Do you hear from Almeda often? She has a hard task to perform. I hope she and Mr Rider will have strength equal to their day. I wish you could look in upon us in our home. If it were not that Isaac is going West I should really feel quite happy. I do not think he will

Mother, Elgin, 1856
To Annie Adams

go before Jan.

Tuesday morn - I've letter from Bangor this a.m. good news - Dr. McRuer calls mother out of danger - I wrote to the Dr. and Hattie were here last Eve and we all rejoiced together over the welcome tidings - It lifted a weight from our hearts.

Do the children go to school this winter? Has it been very cold?

We only furnish two rooms below the kitchen below and a chamber for Jennie above. Our sleeping room is prettily furnished & convenient and we live in it - principally. We have in it a large & small bureau a book case & a couch and a little stand - The washstand is a fixture in a corner of the room -

How I should love to see Mary. I am glad she remembers me. I love little Mary. May they meet at last. Love to you all

April 1, 1886

Dear Albina,

I must write a little though with Charley in my arms. He is very well now though requiring more attention than before he was sick. We are thinking to wean him before warm weather but I dread it. I think it will be more of a task than with any one of the other children. Wilder & Percy play out of doors a great part of the day now. The box of sand, that Eugene is to be at the door affords them great amusement & employment. Libby is not very well now, & for the good of the walk, she has been up there every morning for a number of days. Her eyes are

very troublesome - so weak she cannot go to school at all. She studies at home whenever they are comfortable enough to admit of it. Hattie has been up to day also and took dinner with us. She hopes she has found the Savior, as do many others here. We are enjoying the meetings very much - Mother & I cannot always get, but we feel that we ~~have much to~~ when absent. We were very glad to hear the good news from Milo - O when we remember how willing God is to save, and how he has promised answer to the prayer of faith, how can we help going to Him continually with the cases of those whom we love, who are not yet devoted to

Elaine. "If we abide in Him, and His words abide in us, we may ask what we will and it shall be done unto us." I was struck by the remark of a minister the other day, that he believed no sinner was ever converted except in answer to the faithful prayer of some christian. Does not this make us feel the weight of our responsibility.

I hope Charles & Josie will learn to love Jesus now. It will never be easier, and Jesus loves to bless children, and they will never be sorry for giving Him their early years.

I wish you would come out here with Charles next fall You should love to see your very much indeed.

Love to Charles. We all think much of him, and hope and pray that the Love of Christ may be shed abroad in his heart, and that he may soon rejoice in the glorious freedom of the Sons of God.

I must stop — many thanks for your letter. Do write again soon

Lovingly, Hettie -

(Elyria, Ohio)
April 1. 1858

Dear Albina :

I must write a little though with Charlie in my arms. He is very well now though requiring more attention than before he was sick. We are thinking to waan him before warm weather but I dread it. I think it will be more of a task than with any one of the other children. Wilder and Percy play out of doors a great part of the day now. A box of sand that happens to be at the door affords them great amusement and employment. Libby is not very well now, so for the good of the walk she has been up here every morning for a number of days. Her eyes are very troublesome, so weak she can not go to school at all. She studies at home whenever they are comfortable enough to admit of it. Hattie has been up today also and took dinner with us. She hopes she has found the Saviour, as do many others here. We are ebjoying the meetings very much. Mother and I cannot always go but we feel that we lose much when absent. We were very glad to hear so good news from Milo. O how when we remember how willing God is to save and how he has promised answer to the prayer of faith how can we help going to him continually with the cases of those w whom we love who are not yet devoted to Him. If we abide in Him and His words abide in us we may ask what we will and it shall be done unto us. I was struck by the remark of a minister the other day, that he believed that no sinner was ever converted except in answer to the faithful prayer of some Christian. Does not this make us feel the weight of our responsibility.

I hope Charles and Josie will learn to love Jesus now. It will never be easier and Jesus loves to bless children and they will never be sorry for giving him their early years.

I wish you would come out here with Charles next fall. We should like to see you very much indeed. Love to Charles. We all think much of him and hope and pray that the love of Christ may be shed abroad in his heart and that he may soon rejoice in the glorious freedom of the sons of God. I must stop. Many thanks for your letter. Do write again soon

Lovingly,

Nettie.

Antoinette Brigham Putnam Metcalf

My dear Mother,—

We were very glad indeed to hear from you & Percie and all the rest. Such good news of the baby is really worth while. and then Albina nurses her does she not. & that is something new & pleasant. I do hope the children will be well all the summer. Little Wilder is very well now, and out-doors all the pleasant days, but he will pick off the tulips, and moreover appears to have the Irish ~~French idea that the beans come up wrong~~, but we mean to teach him to keep his little mischievous fingers away from the flowers He trots from one to the other, pointing at each, and talking just as fast as he can. We can

not understand him very well of course. But he is learning to talk - he says "dear papa" and "yes ma'am" and "how do" very prettily - tries to say County &c -

I have a dress maker here to day finishing a dress. She has just been making one for Anna - C. I wish you could see the flowers in our yard - They look prettily and will look better still by and by. We took tea at Anna's last with Wednesday, with Rev. D. L. Lealtrop of New Haven. The first Presbyterian minister of Elyria & now the Agent of the Dividion Seminary - an interesting man. Mr & Mrs. Prior were there too -

We all like the names, very much indeed - Love to Charles & Albina and all the dear children -

You mentioned not closing yr School till five o'clock. What time do you begin? And how much intermission have you? I advise you by no means to exceed your regular time. You should keep 6 hours a day & 6 only. Be particular. You will get no thanks for keeping 7 hours, or 6½ hours. On the contrary, people will be less pleased to have the School prolonged, than to have it closed promptly at the time. And you lose & worse than lose all yr time. Some teachers say they can't get their in the regular time. But they can, & should. A teacher can get thro' at any hour he pleases, by making the proper calculations. Do you go home at noon? Your mother wishes to say to you, if the water is hard you have to drink it hard, you may find it best to drink tea. She will have you do so, if promotive of your health.

How do you spell Niagara? We noticed you spelt it wrong in your letter, spelling the last syllable ra.

In regard to corporeal punishment in school, your mother thinks you better not resort to it without knowing what are the customs of other teachers in this respect. I concur in this. Endeavor, if possible, to keep your school in subjection without the aid of it.

evening, and in 36 hours before, the wind blew like a hurricane, whirling the feathery flakes most unmercifully and piling them in huge drifts such as have not been seen here for many a year, if ever. I never saw old Boreas so perfectly furious. Not title about sunrising this morning, did he cease operations, and it really seemed strange and delightful to look out of doors and find all quiet. "Breaking-out-teams" soon began to pass, and about quarter past one, - supposing the roads would be passable - I started in a sleigh for home.

We had proceeded but a short distance before the poor horse was immovably fixed in a snow drift, - which, before shovelling, was 15 feet high. A kind neighbor came to help us and the struggling beast - from the snow and from the sleigh; and then the men drew the sleigh, while I moved from side to side to prevent an overturn.

When we went on a short distance further, and the same scene was enacted again, on a more magnifi-

cent Scale, till we were forced to stop, entirely, and wait for sleds to go through before us. I went into a house near by, till the road could be broken out, and it was half past four ere I reached home. But I enjoyed the long visit finely - conversing with prized friends, and playing and talking with little grandsons. However I am right glad to find myself once more at home. The warm welcome from father, mother and Jenny made me thank Heaven again for dear friends - home friends. I found a letter waiting for me, making the dirty in the year.

I must wish you a "Happy New Year". I have, many times before this, in my heart. I shall look anxiously for your next letter. We should like to know as definitely as convenient, when we may hope to see you, so that we may send to St George. How glad I shall be to see you again, the time has seemed so long.

Most truly yours,

Antoinette.

Miss Hale Gilmanton N. H. Elgin Union Schools

Oct 12 1850

Dunkirk

GILMANTON ACADEMY.

Oct. 3. '50.

My dear Antoinette,

Your kind, sad letter was here to greet me, on my return to Gilmanton. I thank you for it. I almost feared I should not hear from you again. ——— Death has deeply entered your little circle. How ill you could afford to spare that darling brother. But He to whom he belongs had a higher claim, and you did not fear

did you to hear him in the haunts? I could not wish the disposal to be left to you. And then the blessed hope of seeing him in another home — how you should praise God for that.

And is my dear Mr Lansing "perfect peace"? May the peace rule under the teaching of the great Master above. After a separation with death especially if it be in youth, I think life never looks again precisely as it did before. — Its flowers seem fading — its sunshine more uncertain.

Well, it is good to "feel" that in this world we must have tribulation" but we will also remember to "be of good cheer," as our Savior has commanded us. Our highest joys are often invested with our severest trials. May you & dear parents find it so; to whom please tender my regard and sympathy.

Yes, dear M, I am again at Gibraltar and by the by you might not have seen the slight notice of my in print. I have taken this little sheet upon which to send you my thoughts. We have a large school, but I

[illegible] in the school room but have hours daily. Our Father grants us many manifold tokens of His favor [illegible] to be earnestly watchful, as regards the world of our behavior before it. Pray, at least, we hope [illegible] have this time, and many others are mingled [illegible] with the young ladies a large number of interesting hopes. Our attachment to our work [illegible], a growing interest by them [illegible] Many enjoy it very much, and I think it quite a very favorable influence. I spend much of my time in talking with the young ladies at their rooms, and conversing with them upon various subjects. [illegible] of my father in law, to be present on being [illegible] at the commencement of this term, and [illegible] with us [illegible] to remain with the school, that I could not leave, it [illegible] it is [illegible]. Elias [illegible] me in the summer. She is [illegible] well, with a [illegible] [illegible] each other. I do not [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] I expect him [illegible] day, to [illegible]
[illegible] Christmas. He [illegible] in the
[illegible] of the [illegible] for the present —
[illegible] I suppose you [illegible] to entertain his
[illegible] to you. But, I will just tell you that
he is not [illegible], that in his [illegible]
[illegible], I cannot tell you more without seeing you.)

Dearest, you will always be dear to me,
[illegible] but you have always
[illegible] and while you value my
letter at all and will give me yours in exchange
you will hear from me occasionally, if circumstances permit. ——————

[illegible] you to find a new
"Emi" name? I feel curious to hear something
of your friend — must you tell me all about
him? What a request! I hope he is a
sweet christian. I know nothing of him,
not even his name. ——

What are you doing
dear, this afternoon? Talking up to me with
confidence & love showing the unmingled
hearts of those sweet secrets, and always
good to all as not you. How I should love
to see you now, with your mouth muti-

Mrs. C. D. A. Tuttle,

Elyria,

Ohio.

C. E. Beecher Brooklyn N.Y.

Dec. 9 1847

Lonjon C.C.

Brooklyn. N.Y. Dec. 9th 1847.

Dear Miss Putnam,

Gov. Slade is making up the money account for the first Annual Report of the Board of N. P. E. & he wishes, if any of you design to return any money, paid for traveling expenses, that you would do it, if possible, in the month of December — inclosing it in a letter, to Rev. C. E. Stowe — Walnut Hills — Phila — That that Loan Borrowing Society — money are especially requested to return it, if possible, in December — We do not wish to urge this on any one — but we wish you to know that on account of gainsayers, it will be of service to our cause to reduce the expenses of our first Corps as much as possible — as they will be presented in our first published Report —

I think it probable that next Spring, we shall send teachers, two together, to some very destitute places, where they will keep House, & their expenses be paid not by the Boards but by money raised for this especial purpose. If you know of any place near you, to which such a plan would work well, I wish you would write to me, directly to Brooklyn, N.Y. till Jan'y 15th & after that, to Hartford, C.t.

Gov. Slade & all of us have been greatly

cheered by accounts received from our first Class. They have more than fulfilled our hopes — and next Summer, I design to go around & see them all. I have no time to write to you myself — & by the hand of a friend, send you my love & blessing.

Ever your friend,

L. E. Beecher.

P.S. How teaches to obtain the secretaries at Chicago, Milwaukie & Indianapolis your money on their arrival, must count that as money borrowed of the society, which it was afterwards spent for travelling expenses.

Dear Miss Putnam — We do not wish those who are situated as you are to return any of the money for travelling expences out as you are on missionary ground. I send this to suggest what you think about the plan of having two live together & keep house in such a place as Miss Roberts is in.

I suppose I could furnish enough to make you & her comfortable as house keepers there & you spend your time when not in school in visiting & in trying to do good among the people as well as the children — Do you not suppose you could

do more good than in establishing an school at Ottawa or any other place, not so much of a missionary field? I think I shall visit Chicago in the Spring & I am raising funds this winter. To keep one teachers comfortable in place, when the people do not make them do

Let me know what you think would be the best way of managing on such a field as the one you are in of money is scarce to do with. Write me about your health as Mrs Mother is writes that you are not very well. What seems to be the matter?

Write as soon as you receive this & direct to this place. After the middle of Jany direct to Hartford Conn —

Yours very affly

C. E. Beecher.

Advertised 10
2
12

Miss Antoinette Putnam.

Will Co. Lockport.

Illinois.

Monroe, Jan 22nd '81

Rev Robinson & Wife. I am
sure you will rejoice with us that this day
is one of our Covenant "God is
Still" the number of 19 with the blessing
of good health, to perpetuate
change has taken place in our
family, since you last heard from
us. Except that Warren was united
this present with, to a lady you
never met. I think you will be pleased with,
Rev Mr Gowing. Solomon is living
at home, & is Pastor of the Church
in this place. We all wish to be remembered
kindly, & should you ever come
to see us we will welcome you
and affections, you may not
have been informed of Mrs Jane
Paddock's decease at Lowell, with
the exception of the month, but is true.
In remembrance, My friend Lucy & I in
writing, in behalf of the children
of our school, they will be very much pleased
to have you return to our place for the
purpose of instructing our school,
if you could think it will be duty to
do so they propose to remunerate in
part & will perhaps the school be sure
ing the expenses of your journey. Mother
relations are well, Mrs Paddock,
& brothers & sisters so far as I know
there is a great desire for you to
return to our place. The times you
spoke here, with great pleasure and
that you were here to meet us

S. Knapp Homer Ills

March 20 1860

Dear Sir

Soon after first becoming acquainted with you, I seriously entertained the thought of locating Stock of 200 dollars per head, but you objected to this as too small. If you are at liberty I would give it as my opinion you need not hesitate to come & with the purpose of remaining. I will myself assume a large responsibility in the whole matter for this if you be good enough to rely upon me to look after your interests as I claim to be a competent judge, this because I know the distance that intervenes between this and your place of residence that would naturally be one of your principal points in coming such a long time. The Natural Craft I wish you to understand that you have warm friends in this place, it may be however that you are under other engagements and cannot accede to our wishes, you will please write us immediately.

I am in pleasant health at our office ready to wait on your Patients. You will understand that the success of our Farm is to us of

Considerable importance

Yours truly

S. Knapp

Dear Sir
I received your letter and was glad to hear from you
Have you any
Farm to let
Where is it
Situated
How large
Can you
Have you
Any stock
Do you
Have you
Any
Yours truly
S. Knapp
Homer Ills
March 20 1860

Oliver Wilson is quite an invalid has not been able to go to church for a year I think,
I have not seen any of Fathers family for nearly a week. Mother and Louise are both in poor health. L. will go West to spend the winter with Mary if nothing prevents. she has been delicate for a year and I fear will have a consumption if she is not careful, the Dr. says all she wants is to have more blood her face is nearly as white as this paper, Abbie is at Derry at school, she boards at Uncle Leonard Parkers he is settled there now, at the upper village Helen Hammond is married to a man by the name of Marshall (no one you know) and has a son Abbie Wilson Colby has a daughter Mrs Charles Kimball has two little girls Sadie 3 years old and Anna one, Mrs Proctor Hammond has a son two weeks old Eliza Mills has a son and alas has no husband to rejoice

over its birth it is a great affliction to the family I am truly sorry for them and for her that she should be left to sin in that way.—Your Father visited D. in the spring he was not very well and did not visit as much as he would have done had had it been warmer weather he spoke to us a part of the Sabbath I can realize how sad it must seem to you that your dear old home is occupied by new faces—you must miss your Mother's letters so much, no one can take a mothers place, it seemed sad to us that she should be taken so soon after she left us but she has found a better country even an heavenly,

A year since we had a letter from your brother George giving us a warm invitation to visit him but we have not been able to do so, tho I know of no friend I should love better to see,

We like our new minister very much he reminds us of your brother George

in his style, and to see him walking a little way off looks like him, but they do not look at all alike in the face he has a pleasant family consisting of his wife and her sister and two little daughters one six and the other four years old,

Mrs Leroy Mills fell on the door step at church three weeks since and broke her arm, she is recovering.

Mrs Wade (the old lady) hung herself some three months since it is thot she was insane at the time as she had been very low spirited for some time, she and James lived where Mr Bunten used to,

Mamie is getting to be quite a large girl but we still call her "little Mamie" she is unceasingly busy, is very fond of flowers, and stories but is not very jealous about learning to read, and is very devoted to her family of dolls the chief of whom are Louise and Mary Ann she is a great talker and I am some

Lizzie Sullivan is married to a Mr Lucas of Jefferson a widower with 12 children some of them married, so she is a grandmother

Sarah Kimball
Oct 14. 1862.
and to find
Dunbarton —

times at any rate
stories for her.

John has returned and on learning to whom I am writing says I ought to be ashamed that I have neglected it so long, I think so too, when I told him what I had written he advised me not to go back to the time of Adam & Eve for news, I hope a part of it will be interesting to you, many thanks for your picture it is a very good one and I prize it very much, we hope sometime to see you at Dunbarton your old friends all remember you and would send much love did they know I was writing I saw old Mrs Harris a few weeks since at Manchester she spoke of you, she lives with Mrs Lewis Harris but she is gone south to look after his property there and Mary Ann Caldwell is staying with the old lady

Excuse all that I have written that is not interesting and if you can overlook

my long delay I should love very much to hear from you again I will tell you all about the children

John wishes to be remembered to you. The other family also send love this fall. I remember you with much affection & think of the summer you laughed over as one of the happiest of my peaceful life and have not many lines that so vividly recall your faithfulness to us. Do write me again. Yours with much love

Sarah P. Kimball

Denbarton Oct 24 1862

Dear Friend Kittie:—

I am almost ashamed to attempt an apology for my almost unpardonable delay in answering your welcome letter, I thought then I would answer it without delay but John was quite sick at the time and I had so many cares I put it off and so I have kept doing till tonight I was moved as the Quakers say, to go alone and write you, I am all alone, little Mary has gone to sleep taking quite a care from my mind John has gone to the prayer meeting, the Baptists are holding a series of meetings in the neighborhood we are all very well, it has been a very busy summer with us, and we still have plenty to do in preparing for

winter, The war has been the chief topic of interest and is still, Some have enlisted whom you knew Henry & Horace Caldwell Henry went as Capt. and died at Falmouth Va. in the summer, of fever Horace is in the Hospital at Newport R.I. so also is David Jameson one of Mr Hugh Jameson's sons, Henry and Fred Wells and Frank Pulney some of your old scholars, Frank Mills enlisted and was discharged having wounded himself in the hand while cleaning a pistol, Leonard Wilson one of Lewis W's sons, that is all I think of that you would know, I forgot Will. Buntin who has gone as Capt. in the 14th and Bradford Burnham,
I believe our quota of nine months men is not quite full they offer 200 dollars bounty for volunteers for both calls. about half of the enrolled men, some of them the strongest and most able bodied men in town, have got certificates of exemption from military duty on plea of some ailment or other, the

examining physician was either knave
of fool I do not know which, however
I do not worry about Johns being drafted
but I do wish this dreadful war was at an
end, we have a Soldiers Aid Society and
have done something for the Soldiers tho'
not as much as some towns,
Agnes and Gilbert French are at last
made one flesh, as you may have heard
Gilbert and Capt Whipple have bought
Mr Caldwells place and Mr Caldwell has
bought Capt Whipples and they (the
Brown's Frenchs &C) live in great peace
Mary Eliza Caldwell's husband has enlisted
and I presume she will spend a part of
the time at home. Olive is not yet married
Sarah Wait is engaged to Horace Caldwell
Will Bunten was married just before he
left and his wife has gone to Washington
with him, I fear I shall write you
some stale news and much that you
have heard before but as I do not know
what you may have heard I will

venture to write all I think of.
I presume you may have heard of the
death of Mr Wm. Whipple, nearly a year
since, he died of inflammation of the
lungs caused in part by neglecting to shut
off the gas in the room where he slept -
at Manchester, Mrs W. and her two little
boys live where Mr J. Colby used to at
the center of the town, Harris Ryder is
still an invalid I have not seen him
at church for some weeks sometimes
he is much better and does some work
but any over exertion is generally
followed by another sick turn, he has
a difficulty of the heart I believe
his Father is dead, so also is Capt Larkum
of Beverly whom you may remember
married Mrs Ryders sister,
Miss Elisabeth Wilson has also gone
to her rest, Amanda Wilson died last
week at Manchester of fever her illness
was short she was the only daughter
of Mr. Lewis Wilson,

Eliza Paddock
Homer July
15, 1863

Homer July 15th 1863

My dear Sis M—

I received your welcome letter containing your picture & it was very much surprised when I received your letter for I thought that you had entirely forgotten that we were still in existence

We are very glad indeed that you still remember old friends. Oh how I wish I could come and see you and how glad I would be if you might make me a visit. Edward you know I am not one

would be more welcome than yourself. We should be delighted to see you, let your next letter say that you will come.

We are all usually well. Mother's health was quite poor in the Spring but is now very much improved. We keep no girl and Mother & I do the house work.

By the way I wanted inform you that we have had an addition to our family since I wrote you last, not a baby but a little girl seven years old that Mother has adopted from the Home of the Friendless in Chicago.

You enquired as to Miss Slate's whereabouts she is at Athens (a small village about seven miles from here) Taking care of children for a Mr Singer.

We have had but little rain this summer and every thing around is dusty. The roads are very dusty. It has rained some to-day but not enough to do any good.

We are building a new church here, it stands almost on the very spot the old

school house that you taught in used to stand, and our school house stands a few steps west of it. The church is to be finished in three or four weeks,

I shall be so glad when it is done.

Rozella Walters family is well. I wish you could see that Hodgood by Ebner he is such a rogue. We all love him dearly

Uncle is going to Michigan on a visit after harvest and says if he finds a farm to suit him he shall go there to live, I hope the land will suit miserably for it him for I should be sorry to have him move

I think I shall not have time to write much more as I have two or three more unanswered letters before me.

Hoping that you will excuse mistakes and answer very soon I will bid you

Adieu

Eliza Paddock,

(Hattie and Ida send much love)

Miss Mary Dascomb
Sept. 24 1863

Oberlin. Friday Night.
Sept 24th. 1863.

In the greatest haste, my dear Miss Betty, I write you a line by Mr Barker. I have meditated writing you for a long time the first "spare" (definition?) time (wonder if I can't invent another time in so as to make three times in a row), (excuse me), that I had. Now I have had a remarkably spare time this week. could have got along without it. maybe, have been on my back since Sunday night, and am just up for today.

I am staying at Aunty Clarke's with Ella, while Aunty goes to Toledo on a visit to Willie. That will take about six weeks. Then

a little while at home with Pa and he leaves for Hilladale leaving his bereaved family (by writing to us) wild!

I shall not pounce down upon you without leave, but when I find that I can leave home comfortably, I shall write to inquire into your domestic affairs, and if the Fates be propitious I shall gladly devote myself to edifying and being edified at your most hospitable home.

Meanwhile, if a chance occurs of a ride to Oberlin, please come. Our house (Dascomb Cottage) will now, or soon must comfortably and gladly welcome you into the room prepared for you. Come and see it. I wish especially that you would stay over the Sabbath. There is a deep religious interest here now, and many are hoping

and praying for a Revival. We all need to Pray God it may come in all our hearts.

Must hastily, but lovingly

Yours

Mary D.

Love to all the family, and inquiring friends.

Mrs Isaac Metcalf.

Elyria.

Miss Mary Dascomb

Oct 14 1863

Oberlin Lorain Co. Ohio.
Wed. Oct 14th. 1863.

Dear Mr. Metcalf.

An old classmate of mine (Ah me! either the old or the gray are superfluous) asked me the other day if the Board of Directors in Elyria had written Regulations for their Schools. I was not certain but volunteered to find out, and if such existed to beg one for him. He expects soon to be at the head of quite a large school, furnished I believe entirely with Oberlin Teachers, and wishes all the light possible on the best method of proceeding.

So much for business — now for pleasure! How are you all? I hear you have a boarder, and if you had been a whit less kind to me, I might be jealous of her privileges, but as it is,

I haven't the slightest room for such feelings. I can scarcely wait to see you again. Some changes have taken place - two of my pupils have gone forever. One well prepared - the other I fear not. Though the poor fellow had few privileges (religious), and we must think of that. I wish I had known it before. He was very easily influenced, and if I had known, perhaps I might have done more for him. Such things warn us to be on our guard - to do all the good we can - to exert as positive an influence as possible. It is pleasant to turn from his sudden and perhaps doubtful death, to Ella's sweet Christian character - to be able to think with certainty - she is happy now.

Our house is progressing finely. We do so enjoy the fresh pretty paper, and paint, and the rearranging things. I hope in a week or two to be at home again, and help like sometime.

I am a little uncertain in my plans for the Winter. I have invited a Portland cousin to visit me. If she comes, I shall have a quiet, cosy home time. If not — I may go away! I am in correspondence with a Mr Howe of Lancaster Farm — Reform School who wants me to teach in his family five hours a day. I refused at first on account of his small salary, whereat he asked for what wld. I be willing to come, and I have yet to receive the answer to my reply.

The place is said to be a very fine one, and as money is quite an object with us now, I may go. Though Ma thinks I am hardly strong enough. So you see, I am "waiting for something to turn up." In any case, I will make you a call.

These elections! How proud and happy and grateful we are. Won't it rejoice our soldiers in the field.

Much love to you all from Mrs C.

Miss Mary P. Dascomb
Dec. 30 '63

Oberlin, Lorain Co, Ohio.
Dec 30th. 1863.
Wed Night.

My dear Mrs Mattie,

Your delightful letter decided me at once to spend Christmas week with you while my Music Teacher was away. When lo, Cousin Willie proposes to spend the Holidays at home, which of course makes it out of the question for me to leave.

It seems so droll to see her with a little baby, and her husband's charming little three year old daughter.

The baby is prodigious. It will laugh out loud, and it only eight weeks old.

In place of myself. I sent Kittledge. I know you will like the first part it is so spicy and girlish.

The Old Year is almost gone, and I hail the New Year as another fine place to "turn over a new leaf". Bro. Finney preached last Sabbath on the power of God, the special gift of the Holy Spirit to Christians whereby they may win souls. He says one may be a christian without it, but all christians may have it, so that a word from them may awaken and impress the sinner, when the same from another would not. That is what I need. I have the most precious S. School class. Some are just beginning to do right & others have not

begun. I need so much wisdom
to lead them to Christ. Pray
for me —

Love to all friends.

Most affy — by —

Mary D.

A Happy New Year to all!

is dead. Mollie Conn probably died. Johnnie Smith's wife gave birth to a dead baby, we expect, (but I've got a long letter from Mollie. I think Barbara has a fine wife. Dr. was a great disappointment to them (the death of the child, I mean, not the wife) Mamie & Hattie are at home. Hattie is teaching. Smith you could come over and see us all. I should so love to tell you all the little things Lucie does to us, and would be dear to us, and would be to you - Will you not write me soon? Love to all from

Cousin Anna

Westboro Dec. 20th "

My dear Cousin

Three times since our darling Susie "went home" have I made unsuccessful attempts to write to you. I so longed for you, who have been in the School of affliction, longer than I, to comfort me; and now at Mother's request I will try again, to answer your comforting letter to them. Dec 24th I found I was estimated my strength yesterday, for my heart was so full and sad I could not write. I've been striving & praying for new strength, to enable me to bear this

trial not only with calm submission, but with heart-felt joy, believing that God has "with unerring hand" worked out "his plan" of Susie's life, and has taken her thus early to his own home. I know she is far happier now, and I trust she has found her work. Her loving active spirit so longed to be useful while she dwelt on earth that I can but feel that she is now with him, "in whose presence is fulness of joy." We know she is no longer clogged by a poor weak suffering body, often groaning wist. Oh how often she spoke of the rest of Heaven. I wish you could have seen her in her last days, so peaceful and happy, so delighted that she was "going home". She never spoke of death in any other way than going home.

Jan. 18th I would not send this old letter if I thought I should be well enough to write a note ... soon,

so I hope you will excuse this. I have been unwell ever since dear Susie died, but am more so now. I dont know whether I am rebellious and unreconciled to the will of God, or why it is I mourn so all the time, and want her with me so much. No one knows what we were to each other. I was with her the greater part of the last year of her life, and now she is in my thoughts the last thing at night & first in the morning. My physician says it is thinking of her and living over the last weeks of his life, in my thoughts that is the cause of my illness, but I cant help it. Merrick sent his little Walter, a darling boy of five years, to stay with me, and take up my mind. He was with me six weeks. I was sorry to spare him then, but "Papa had the first claim." When I commenced this he was at my side

asking questions about his little
Cousins out west wished me to ask if
they hung their stockings Christmas,
and what they found in them. It
took more wisdom than I possess to
ans a great many of his questions.
I would send you Susie's photograph if
we had it, but we could not succeed
in getting a good one she was so feeble.
We have a very good Ambrotype & are
going to have some photographs from
it, and will send you one, and if I
can ever get a respectable one of myself
I will send it. Joe tried four times. I
would like yours if agreeable to you.
I have a nice album, and a nice place
in it for you and all your family.
Father & Mother send much love, &
thanks for your kind letter. Brother
Merrick is very unwell, sometimes
we think will never be any better. He
coughs badly. Cousin Joshua has bought
his milk route in Providence; Sam Grey's

Mrs Root
Du Quoin Ill

Du Quoin Dec 8th 1863

Your dear kind
& welcome
letter
came
to hand
for which
I return
my
sincere
thanks
I am
glad
you
did
not
forget
me
—
I am
so
lonely
to
day
—
to
day
is
the
anniversary
of
my
dear
husbands
birth
day
—
how
many
sad
memories
it
brings
to
me
—
Oh
God
how
can
I
live
on
alone
—
I
am
so
lonely
—
my
heart
is
so
sad
—
my
dear
Mrs
Metcalf

I thank you for your very kind letter — I thank you for your remembrance & sympathy — I am always so glad to see Mr Metcalf — It seems to me of happier days — when my children were around about me — Oh how much grace I need to say "Thy will be done" — sometimes I think my heart says it — I know that God means all this for my good — Who He takes all — it will be but a few days before I shall follow — & then — oh! & then shall we meet on that land where the weary are at rest —

This pleasant weather seems so much better — Our home for this winter is at our old place — we are boarding with a pleasant family — the care of keeping house was too much for me

It is rather lonely — tho our Du Quoin friends call often — dear ones they are

how kind every body is to us - every delicacy awaits her - The old school house is a dear spot still - Mr Wood is there minister - & the Church tho but few are engaged - -

All the young men in the army - Mrs Skinner has two sons there

My time is mostly occupied in waiting upon A - She is very very feeble - - - She does not suffer much only from her breath which is sometimes frightful - - - I presume you have heard that last spring she was taken with a hemorage of the lungs - apparently in health - tho through the winter she had a slight cough a cold - her health had always been so unsound that we thought she could not be sick - the laws of health was her study - very temperate in all things - but I have no doubt but it is hereditary - I was taken just as Ephraim was - - - tho she fails more rapidly - She spent three months with her friends in NY - I had great hopes that would do her much good - but it did not - the bleeding continued frequently until her return - & has not since ceased - her pleasure is wasting - she seems cheerful most of time - anticipate her returning to our home in the spring - I have been afraid she would not live until spring - but she seems for a few days so much better she may be comfortable next summer - - -

I am interested in your family of dear ones - - may God spare them to be a blessing to you & the world - Some how I need more sanctification than others - it is my prayer that I may profit by all this - I have truly the world looks to me - there is but few that I enjoy their society - I am sorry I feel so - It seems as tho I should love to talk with you & Mr Bradford once to them - altho I am an old woman I may live to see you with them

Dear Nettie — To-day I have
a Rhetorical Reader having my
name and the date Nov. 1836 inscribed
in Father's clear firm hand. As I opened
it I was back in the old school house
and I could hear the voices which were
wont to read the familiar passages in
those days so far back on my life path.
Mr Fitts was drilling us and ruling
now and then with a rod. Do you
remember him? Time has wrought
many changes with us all, and scattered
those who were wont to gather there far
and wide. I spent about a week in
Dunbarton last summer and though
I enjoyed the place and my visit well
it did not seem very homelike and I
sadly missed most of those I loved best.
I did not go into your old home, it looked
pleasant as ever outside but I dont want
to see you dear mother's place vacant in
that house so closely associated with her.
I passed a Sabbath there but Mr Hudson

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exchanged with Mr Holmes from Auburn. I saw and spoke with most of those living whom we used to know, went into Dea Parker's class in Sabbath School. It was rather strange to see any one else acting as superintendent though Charles Rider filled the place very well. Our family friends were pretty well though Jona Ireland seems older than father did. I saw Mr Colby & his wife, they seem very happy. No one lives at their old place. They are on Col. Stinson's farm & Harriet on the Bailey place near our house. I was sorry not to be able to see her. Our people thought she had a hard time & that they were poor. I called at Mr Brigham's, found them not very well, also at Chas Kimball's. They have two very pretty little girls. I spent about two months among friends in N. Hamp & two more in Penn. Maine & Mass. I have never been away so long at a time during the sixteen years of my residence here but I had been feeling for the last two or three years that I must have some change or I should wholly break down so I thought I would try travelling. Sister went with me to Maine and I enjoyed my first visit "down East" very

much. We were in Bangor & attended the anniversary exercises of the Seminary which were very interesting. Then we visited at Buckspor Orland & Searsport making the acquaintance of some good cousins ~~for~~ almost the first of our kindred that I ever saw. The elder members of the Thurston family in Maine were cousins to my father but we have had very little acquaintance with them. I enjoyed the summer on the whole very much and hoped I was benefitted by the change but after I had been at home a little while I raised a little blood and then afterwards had a severe bilious attack so that I was kept in and not able to do much for two months. I am feeling pretty well & much stronger now, still my side chest are somewhat troublesome. I do not cough much. I have not been in school at all this year, am teaching a little now. Mother has been quite feeble part of the winter but we have managed to take care of each other mostly. My absence & sickness will explain why I have been so long in writing to you my ever dear friend. I thought to write from New England but you know it is not easy to write while visiting.

Lizzie has had so much more care than usual that she has become quite worn & wearied and has I believe fully decided not to continue the school after the close of this year in June. We cannot decide just what we shall do but probably keep house on a smaller scale just our three selves. A quiet pleasant home out of school has been one of my air castles but somehow I have not looked forward to anything with very bright anticipations of late. I feel sometimes very like a child wearied out with running, ready to lie down in the way, powerless to go farther. How much I should love to look in upon you all to night. Your dear little ones are growing taller and wiser and better every day. I hope you have been kept freed from sickness this winter. Your father I was happy to hear was much better in health last summer.

Great preparations are making here for a fair for the Sanitary Commission. It is to be held next week and will no doubt bring many people to our midst. Our village (or city that is to be) is already crowded by Soldiers. They are constantly coming & going. When will this strife end? I fear yet that there will be a desperate struggle but I am sure that right & justice will prevail and that our government will be established on a firmer foundation. I hope that party politicians will yield their desires to the good of the whole. I am not a politician neither have I any sympathy with those of ours(ex) called "Strong minded" though they may have found only their true vocation. Anna Dickinson is to speak here soon. Have you ever heard her? She was here last winter and gave us a

Mrs Walters Cottage Grove
Mir
March 5 1864

Cottage Grove. March 5th/64

"Have pity upon me, O ye my friends,
for the hand of God hath touched me".

We feel that we can ask for sympa-
-athy from you, dear friends, for your
own hearts have bled as ours are now
bleeding — Our darling little Olive has
gone — last Thursday we laid the dear dust
down in the cold earth — and O how desolate
seems our home without her — I did not
know till she was gone how much she
filled my heart — so much perhaps, and
a loving father has taken her to himself
We know that it is better for her, gone
in all her innocence, and we try to
think of her as she is in the presence of
Jesus but it is hard to look away
from our own sorrow — There is such
a sense of want, "A stillness aching round".

She was taken sick the first

Dear Little Mary that Ollie always remembered as a tall Head of her —

week in January - complained for two
or three days of pain in her stomach
we gave her the usual remedies but as
they seemed to have no effect we that
she must be troubled with worms and
were about sending for worm medicine
when her feet and ankles commenced
swelling and became in a short time
very painful and so sore that she
could not bear the least thing to touch
them, we sent to St Paul for a Dr and
he said that whatever the trouble was
in the start it had resolved itself into
rheumatism, He inquired if she had
had palpitation of the heart or nose bled
saying that in children they almost
always preceded rheumatism, but she
had had neither to our knowledge -
The medicine relieved her so that in
forty eight hours she could stand on
her feet - Dear little thing I never shall
forget how happy she and Minnie
were when they found she could

stand and step a little – she kept gaining
till she got so she could walk all about
and remained so three or four weeks
but did not seem right well any of the
time she had a peculiar whiteness in
her face and hands all winter which
caused us some uneasiness – One evening
about four weeks before she died she
complained of pain in her left side
I laid my hand on to try and ease
it and found her heart was beating
violently – in a day or two she commenced
coughing and we took her to Dr Paul to
see the Dr – he called it palpitation of
the heart and seemed confident that he
could help her soon – we proposed staying
at Fathers a few days where he could see
her often but he did not seem to think
it necessary and so we came home – but
she grew worse and we sent for him
in a few days – he then called it
organic disease of the heart and gave
but little encouragement that he could

help her — She kept failing, seeming to wither away in our arms like a broken flower — I dont think she had any acute pain but there was a distress that she could not describe the little heart fluttered all the time and every little vein in her neck throbbed and quivered incessantly She sometimes asked when Spring would come. The first morning of Spring dawned calm and bright — She lay on the bed quite still for a while — then she seemed to be distressed and wanted to be carried round — her father took her and carried her round a few minutes — she called for water and after she drank seemed to be trying to throw up wind — he sat down with her and rubbed her back and she bent her head forward — breathed a few minutes and was gone — She was beautiful in death — all the distressed look was gone from the little face and there was a faint smile round her mouth

But I fear I am wearying you, I did not intend to write so much when I commenced but you know "Out of the fullness of the heart the mouth speaketh"

Please write soon as convenient we are always glad to hear from you — Please give our best respects to your mother and Dr DeWitts family —

Yours with much love

M. W. Watson.

for them all. "Have
Wilder to look at- and
after I see him to-. I wish I
I had known it was two bunches
I'll take them & do not wish
to see him or hear of him
standing lower than 2 cts
once. I can and I
mine & command a distinction
Key to do it. Love to Anna
Porter- and will go or I have
give love to Hattie & Smith-
Thursday July 15 1869
Dear Sir & Mrs Dr Smith- I
have not forgotten. Thin
knowledge Letting me
Thursday
Jan 14 1869
know, & the matter claim.
We are always is ever
glad to hear in E. Hat also not
continue very well- Bray
and mine read Power must be
attain- and all be to Jesus.
Lord- Church here in
Lord- dominized this summer
Bart- he is 8 Bible Preaching and
Bible is quiet- But- I am Methodist
With much love
Clara Porter

Now do you think of me, my dear Mrs Wetherby that two weeks should have passed since the reception of your very pretty present and no acknowledgement of it. I can lay it to my ignorance and not ingratitude. I believe I would rather you would think it that- that has caused the delay. I intended to write you before Mr P. came home I felt like it and I thought it might be acceptable, but it kept one busy to keep Mr P. posted. and I did not feel much in the writing order. But- now he came and gave one just what I have wanted so long and never had. I thought I should write directly but one thing has happened so directly after another that writing, time has seemed no hard to find. I shall prize your gift very

much. It is so neat and so serviceable. I have thought of you so often when looking at it. That now the gift and the giver are always connected. I did not wish a return however I have received so many favors from your hand that I could not repay. it only makes me feel your kindness more. some day I may be able to return your hospitality. I thank you for all. and your kind husband too. May Heaven reward you for all your deeds of love. I feel that it is so.

I was not sorry to see Mr. Parker as you may imagine. I had all the pleasure of seeing home friends before he came and then of welcoming him. and the tokens of remembrance he brought were truly pleasing. My associations with Elyria are mostly of a happy nature. a few that I care not to think of I longer over and forget. Though when I feel I did not do my whole duty I do not try to forget but think of them as lessons for the future.

Vacation is passing rapidly and pleasantly. only think six more weeks and we enter a new field of study: new acquaintances to be made. I do not anticipate it. I do not think I am the right one to change friends so often. my Janesville friends are as dear to me to-day as they were the day I left them. and I know it will be so of my Elgin friends. Ann Bridall not the least. and is she willing with all her cares to write occasionally to one. Not that there is any danger of my forgetting her. But I would be pleased to have that proof. One of the most precious boons God has given us. of her remembrance offers no inducements as a correspondent. There are some things I can do. of this I cannot; among them. write interesting letters. So that my request is purely from selfish motives. anything connected with E. will be interesting even if you do not leave the Metcalf family. I'd like to see every one of them. from the gentleman of the house to the little wee one. A good wish

Mrs N. B Parker
July 14 1864

E. Paddock
Auburn N. Y
Sept 24
1864

Elyria —

Auburn Sept 24th 1864,

Dear [illegible]

I did not [illegible] as
[illegible] and you did doubtless [illegible]
[illegible] at [illegible] as for [illegible] as
[illegible] but [illegible] (I [illegible] I [illegible]
[illegible]) [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] but [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible]:

I [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Tabarra Oct 20th 1864.

Dear Sister,

Your letter was received
in due season and having decided
upon one week I came to Thanks
it but to mild mad disappointed.

I expect to find for home upon
Sunday, consequently cannot visit
you although I should very much
enjoy it if it was convenient but
another time will do just as well,

I expect to leave here on the
first of Nov & come with home your
home,

I received a letter from Mother

last night. We are all well at home, and look quite as if we were expected but I could not get away.

Perhaps you will be sure to meet several about the Exhibition and Exhibition Meetings here, etc.

I wish hope that "Lincoln" may be settled, if he is not, I fear we shall have trouble, the Irish will be ruined.

Dinner is almost ready, and I must close,

With all your faithful Companions and believe me

Ever your friend

Eliza Gladstone

In great haste,

Yours to Catherine. Ll.

Elwin Paddock
Homer May 1, 1865-
Elyria Ohio

Lockport May 1st 1865-

Dear Mrs Metcalf -

Your last letter - (written Feb 27th) lies before me - I intended answering it sooner - but have been negligent -

I reached home the 4th of Nov - A Cousin came with me and we enjoyed the journey very much -

I should have been glad to visit you had it been possible - perhaps I shall see you some time, Can you not make us a visit this summer? We should be delighted to have you

You would not recognize Homer (or Gordon Settlement as it used to be called) I think I wrote you about our Church. We now have a fine Double Reed Reedorgan. We held a festival to raise the funds.

I saw Mr Randolph's people last week. They were inquiring about you and wished me to give you their respects. when I wrote.

What terrible news we have had of late. What a loss the nation has sustained in the death of our President.

Are you not glad that the murderer has been killed: I wish he might have been hung. Of course it is all for the best. God knows just what is best for his people.

You ask if I ever think of teaching school. I have. But father is greatly opposed to my leaving home, and I suppose I shall not teach. I think I should like to

teach one or two terms -

I am now taking Music lessons of a lady in Lockport - It takes a goodly portion of my time -

It is raining quite fast to-day - making it seem gloomy without. But cozy and pleasant within - just the time to write letters;

I'll try to tell you the little items of news of the neighborhood -

Mr Brace Bowley's people - lost their eldest son - three weeks since - He died in a Congestive Chill - Olive B - or Mrs Lynk is quite sick,

Cousin George - has been quite sick but is now better. Mrs Wells is going to Canada visiting - She starts tomorrow All other old acquaintances are well -

It is getting late - I must close, I am always glad to hear from you - Please write soon -

Truly & lovingly Yours
(Mother & Father, send love) E E Paddock

Annie may ride out to B. with us. She longs to see you & the children "baby excepted" she says. She sends love.

Oberlin June 17th 1865.

Dear Mrs. Metcalf,

How long it is since we have met! Fousband and I have for some weeks been talking of making an effort to get out to Elyria soon. My Brother Lamb's wife is now in Oberlin. I want her to see you, who she desires very much. Our plan is to ride out with her next week — perhaps Wednesday, and spend a few hours with you. Br. Leonard has visited us recently, and will return home by way of Oberlin. He went from us to visit his son & sister Martha in Iowa — He may be here again next week — and present our going to E. the day we set to go.

In haste,

Yours truly,

H. P. Fuscomb

Mattie and Addie - would give with me the love to you all

Dear friends
Mattie & Known
since I have written to or heard from
you and my apology must be that most
of the time I have scarcely felt equal to
writing. You will wonder why my letter
is not as usual from Elmira as I don't
myself that I am here at a resort for
invalids. It can hardly be called a water
cure though there is a fine sulphur spring
and the water is freely used for drinking
and bathing. You know that I have not
been well for some time; last Nov. I had
some congestion of my left lung and after
that several severe bilious attacks so that
I went out very little through the winter
I have pained through the summer but
I wanted to be sure this month and
so I have come here to be for a little time
under the care of Miss Mirison who has
the reputation of being a skillful physi-
cian. I like her very much though she
is a character herself. The place is a
delightfully quiet country town and the

Dear Mattie - It is a long time
for relatives
is before me
I wish I could
see you
Many are mem
bers of me there
who are more
hearting if
we may not

May often you bless your friend & sister Mattie

family which is not large very pleasa
Everything is made as homelike as po
by Miss K. & her two sisters. Miss K. examin
my lungs yesterday and thinks there is no
active disease now but that the upper part
of the left one is nearly useless. There will
of course be a tendency to disease though
she says she sees no reason why with care
I may not have comfortable health for years.
I cannot hope to be as strong as before and
the thought of being weak and unable to do
is trying but if my heavenly Father sees
best thus to discipline me I trust I shall
be cheerfully submissive to his will
and have strength for whatever work
there is for me to do. The time has never
seemed to come when I could feel free
from cares. The school was given up
last year in June but we were obliged
to arrange for housekeeping immediately.
Sister rented one part of the house
to our niece Mary who married Mr. Gar-
diner and boarded with them for the
use of the furniture. Thus Mother and
I were left by ourselves so we decided to
take some rooms up stairs & keep house
It was not just the way I would have chosen

seemed best under the circumstances.
Since the weather became warmer we
have taken our meals with Mary though
I think when I return we shall be by our-
selves if I can get some one to help me.
Mother is still pretty well though I can
see that she has failed in strength, thus
far we have been able to care for each other
though it is one of my trials that I am
not able to do all I would like for her com-
fort. We are more now to each other than
ever since no one seems to need us.
My brother's wife died the last of June and
Clara is left with the care of housekeeping
and the four younger children, the young-
est not two years. Sister is at home now,
intends going East soon to spend some
time. She was absent five months last
fall and winter in N. Hampshire, Mass
& N. Y. City. I was at home all last summer
and have been most of the time this until
I came here shall probably stay two or three
weeks longer. I wanted very much to
visit you and other friends West but do
not think it right to leave mother long
at a time. I want to see you and your
dear ones so much. I hope you are all

will aid that the children are
and do a great comfort and help
to their parents. Wilder must be a large
boy and Charlie too. Kiss them all for
me. My niece Mary has a dear babe
eight months old, a great pet with us all.
How rapidly events came crowding upon
each other during a few months, in our
country. The war is ended and with it
slavery destroyed yet it still seems almost
impossible that order and good feeling
can prevail at present. How comforting
to know that God rules over all and will
cause all things to work together for good
and His own glory.
Has your father been to visit you and
how is his health? We have not heard
from Dunbarton lately. There is a Miss
Ward here, teacher in the College at Elmira
who was at Holyoke when Sarah Bingate
died; says she was with her most of the
time for the last two days. Do you know any
thing of the family now? I am coming to
the end of my sheet and the breakfast-bell
will ring soon so I must close. We have
only two meals, breakfast at eight and
dinner at two. Let me hear from you
as soon as you can.

Miss. M. Hitt
Gaylord

Hartford Conn
Nov 18th 1863.

Dear Aunt Hettie.

I was truly very glad to receive your kind letter, & made many good resolves to answer immediately but my Son after his arrival was my suddenly called home by sickness & while there I of course could do no writing. On my return I found more than enough to do in cleaning my house, which I persisted in doing myself. I have been pretty tired some days but I can now rejoice over my blindless neighbor, mended & windows. I have a good long day to myself for work, not interrupted by dinner to get, sometimes it is mast- er long & I look for six o'clock very impatiently. The evening Mr Gaylord spends

with me, except Saturday evening
when he is obliged to be at the store.
We usually spend the evening in
reading & I enjoy it very much after
being all day alone. I have made
my first acquaintances as yet. Those
I have met are very pleasant.
I have been out but my letter, my
home duties & sometimes keeping
me in & sometimes inclination
I started to hear Mr Phillips
lecture, but was disappointed. I was
quite anxious to see him. Mr Chapin
is our next lecturer. I hope to hear
him. Dr Bushnell preaches at the
South Church tomorrow. I hope to hear
him. I like Mr Parker very much.
I have not become connected with
any Sabbath School as they have
their Sabbath School in the after
noon & it is not possible for me to go
then; it is too far to go three times a

day. Who has my Old class at home
& What a time Thurs? For what class
are the letter cousins? I remember
hearing heard Carrie Pullman speak
of her brothers would like to have
met him. What is Carrie's address
I would like to write her, I am glad
that I am missed by some, at home
but feel that I have so happy a home
that I might be be my thankfull & con
tented, & I am contented, & looks my
seldom visit my face & time merely
pass unanxiously & do the right thing
Last Thursday night ended the so
called "honeymoon" but we both are
need to be as careful, in the future
& giving Hymns as we have run
in the past, What do you hear from
Lizzie Slickney? & where is Brandon now?
now? I had not heard of the death
of Mrs Beachey until you wrote, There
has been quite a change in Clyde

in three times more tha, I can
imagine perhaps how much I would
like to see Aunt Marie & Thekie
-dum. I hope they may be persuaded
to remain in City rice, I am very glad
your little men remember me.
give a great deal of love & kisses
(which they do not deserve more) to each of them, I would like
see to Harley's sunny face, Aunt
can I not have a letter picture of
you & me of mine? I have none of them,
nor of Harley, I can imagine you
busy minding to night, I would like
to look in upon you. When shall I see
you all again? Give love to all who
inquire. to Grandmamma & all
Uncle Charles, Aunt Julia & cousin
as often as you can—your letters, do me
good, I would love to hear from
Uncle's sake, love to him, In Gaylord
joins me in kind remembrances
to mesdames of the family.

Lovingly yours
(very much pleased) Hattie Gaylord

had an invitation to spend the winter in Greenville, with Miss Hopkins, formerly governess. She may go if she can get a passage in a steamer. Mary is to sail for Rio Jan. this week as companion to Mrs. Julia Finney (Monroe), and teacher of the children. She has just gone to Cleveland today to make the purchases for her outfit. But we are in real distress for an efficient seamstress to come right into the family and help us three or four weeks. I have made enquiries at Painesville, Elyria, & Sandusky but without success. Yesterday I heard, that such a lady could be found in a Miss Hopkins, now with Mrs Arthur Ely of Elyria. If she is a competent individual, could I possibly procure her? If not for 4 wks. cd I for two – or even one? The expense of sending for her and

Dr. S. is lecturing in Cleveland for the winter – draws big audiences – Mary is to sail as companion to Mrs. Julia Finney (Monroe) for Rio Jan. this week

Chardon, Nov 23d 65

My dear Mrs Metcalf,

Perhaps you may have heard that Mary is to sail for Rio Jan. this week as companion to Mrs. Julia Finney (Monroe), and teacher of the children. She has just gone to Cleveland today to make the purchases for her outfit. But we are in real distress for an efficient seamstress to come right into the family and help us three or four weeks. I have made enquiries at Painesville, Elyria, & Sandusky but without success. Yesterday I heard, that such a lady could be found in a Miss Hopkins, now with Mrs Arthur Ely of Elyria. If she is a competent individual, could I possibly procure her? If not for 4 wks. cd I for two – or even one? The expense of sending for her and

hardly pay for one week, but we are in a desperate straight. If Mrs. Ely is depending on her services, could she delay her work for a little? Of course I have no claim on her benevolence more than any other stranger. She is a little acquainted with Mary. Had I known the real burden of fitting out a child for 2½ years, I would not have consented that Mary shd. have had the application. As it was, I did make it one of the serious objections to her going — as I am now situated.

I thought of Mrs Mary Brown — but know not to whom she is — and then she has young children —

If you are confined at home, so that you cannot see about Miss H. or any other one, will Mrs. Dr. Strong serve me? You might send this note to her.

Mary must see you before she goes if possible — but our last parting is coming on —

With much love to you all

Yours somewhat careworn

M. P. Dascomb.

Can't you write me a line soon?

Oberlin, Nov 24th /64.

Dear Mrs. Metcalf,

A lady, to whom I applied some weeks since to aid me in sewing, has written me, that another efficient seamstress, whom I suggested, in case she cd not come, will be with me by the first week in Dec. I therefore write you to say that you need not apply for Miss Hopkins in my behalf. If you have opportunity to ascertain whether she is at liberty to come to O. in case I or any others in this place ~~need~~ should need her services, ~~she will be ready~~ it may not be amiss. Very likely you are seeing about it today - if you got my lr. last night. I am sorry to make you unnecessary trouble, but as I had not heard from my friend since her letter that

She could not come, but wished to see if the other lady would — I concluded there was no encouragement from that quarter.

Mary will be at home Tuesday next. She is to spend the Feb. in Pa. with her cousin, Mrs. Willie C. Finney.

Can you not come out to see us?

In haste,

Yours truly,

M. P. Dissosway

Augusta Goodwin

Elysian, Jan 24th, 1886.

Wadena.

Dear Mrs. Metcalf:

I was in hopes

[illegible] the excellent reading which it contains.

Brother & myself will gladly receive a call, or, what would be more acceptable, a visit from you at any time.

Yours loving friend & well-wisher —

Jessie R. Gardner

Hotel Gaylord
No. [illegible]
[illegible] 15 66

Hartford Conn
March 16th 1866

Dear Aunt Nellie,

I meant to have mailed
myself to write you immediately after dinner
but I have been prevented from doing so
until now it is nearly five o'clock, only
a little more an hour & then I can write
be home. I sometimes the days seem
very long & this has been my long time
thing & I have been quite busy. I have
washed, ironed & baked this week &
am glad to feel that it is done for one
week more. You may think that I can
have no time to idle, but I find pro-
digious quite part with my time
& call. This has been a beautiful day, if
I had my Lad had some place to run
without chasing up I should not have
[illegible] in all day. I miss my mamma
in places very much indeed, & shall

more I presume as Spring advances,
As it is I stay almost wholly at home
have my little inclination to go out on
the street with nothing to call me there,
This in morning time nearly all are
on the street. We have decided to move
but have not made a decision upon
the tenement. Our object in moving is
to be nearer the Store so that Orrin can
come home to dinner & nearer church.
Our deaf & double neighbors moved out
yesterday & you can hardly imagine what
a relief it was to me to see them go.
Mrs Weeks became mad at something
I do not know what & from that time
she has seemed to seize every opportunity
to annoy me. She threw all her dirty
& swill from her kitchen window frequently
by letting the dirty water run the whole
length of mine. & in the same way
from the bedroom. And then the
noises she made to the child became
my business to me, but in spite of this.

I had a long & very interesting letter from Mary Hall last night; mary all taken up with an account of the meetings & the religious interest there at home. You do not know how I long to be at home when I hear these accounts. It seems as if I could not stay away. The news seems almost incredible to me. & oh so glorious. I do so hope all the new converts may be carried steadfast; I cannot help thinking as I write how it must have rejoiced Pa and mother's eyes to have seen this. Certainly her prayers have been answered. Yes indeed I do long to hear Father speak. I think there is no place where one feels so much a stranger as in the house or prayer meeting. I have found it so in my absence, I have tried to write to Edie ever since I received your letter but I have not found the time yet, think I shall this week. When you write to George & Fannie give love to them & little Fannie I should

delight to visit them sometimes & perhaps I may, I often think of the dear children & all of them & I miss them much. Tell them I have not forgotten them & that I love them as I did when at home, & shortly I do mean I owned me grn. What time you could come to me or I go to you, I want to talk with you one so much, writing does not answer the purpose at all. Wish we might have helped you at that same big lookey, we would have done our very best to make you here there, shortly write you please & enclosed note to master, Please give a great deal of love to all the friends to Uncle Isaac especially, I do not fear that this is a fair return for your long letter but you know I have just time for letter writing - while you have many. I must stop now & get tea for 6 o'clock with much love, good bye

Your loving niece

H. Ellen Gaylord,

Miss Hattie Gaylord
Hartford Conn.
July 22d 1866.

Hartford-Conn
July 22nd/866.

Dear Aunt Nellie.

Your kind letter was received some time since & I have thought of you often since & have desired to reply but circumstances have not permitted. Your letter came just as I was going home for a short visit, & since my return I have been so busy to write. The weather for the last two weeks has been intensely warm & has been very hard for me to endure. I enjoyed my stay in the country very much although it was short, but the ride there & back tired me very much. The weather now is much cooler & I am enjoying it very much indeed. I do not go out much but have quite enough exercise in the

home at present. for I find I am not as elastic as I once was. I am my well now only weigh one hundred & twenty (my usual weight is one hundred) I hear from home quite frequently but not near as often as I would like to. I have enjoyed seeing the friends from home my much, & through them I have learned many items of interest that I have not learned through letters. I do want to see them all at home so much but I fear it will be a long time before I shall. I am my glad you little men get along so nicely. Who do you leave them with while Uncle is away? I would love to see George & Jennie my much & I have a plan in my head to run up & make them a visit some time in the future not my far distant. Are you acquainted with Mrs Bird, the sister of Mrs Pascoe? She lives quite near

ns & I would like to be acquainted
with her, but hear, that as a family they
hold themselves quite high & I do not
like to make the advances, I have made
many kind friends since I came
up into this part of the city & they are
all so kind to me. & I trust & feel that
it is because my Heavenly Father sends
these blessings to me & not because I
deserve them. & all of Orrin's friends are
just as kind to me as they can be & I can
not tell you how good & kind Orrin is
to me, I wish you knew him. I know
you would like him, Aunt Nettie I want
to see you very much & hope that I may
& it will not be in the least inconvenient
(on my account) but I shall not be able
to accomodate you as we would like
to, but if you will take us as we are, we
will try to make you comfortable & shall
be most happy to see you. Do not disappoint us. I do not expect to be sick like
the last of the month. & shall have help

next week. My sewing is nearly
finished & so I am going to take
things as easy as I can. Remember me
to George & Jennie, & accept love from
Carrie & Myself. Hoping to see you soon
I remain dear your loving niece
Hattie Gaylord.